



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## Ana Lopez— She Puts the 'Happy' in Happy Donuts

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

It's a little before 11 p.m. on a Tuesday in mid-April. Noe Valley is so hushed, pedestrians start to whisper as they tiptoe down 24th Street.

But a bright light burns at Happy Donuts at the corner of 24th and Church, and the night owls of the neighborhood are beginning their evening flight to the flame.

Many come to the donut shop for a caffeine or sugar fix, or because Happy Donuts is Noe Valley's only 24-hour haven. But they're also drawn to the warmth of Ana Lopez, the 51-year-old El Salvadoran native who works the graveyard shift from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., six days a week.

Although I'm not a regular, it takes only one visit to Happy Donuts for me to see the attraction. On this particular Tuesday, Lopez's hospitality is overflowing.

"Want something to eat? Want a donut? A sandwich? Some coffee?" Lopez asks when I introduce myself.

Sensing that she won't be satisfied until I accept her offer, I fill a medium styrofoam cup with Happy Donuts' House Blend. As I reach for the metal pitcher of non-dairy creamer, Lopez stops me.

"Want to try something *really* good?" she asks, opening the door of the mini-refrigerator that sits behind the counter. She hands me a pint of hazelnut-flavored Coffeemate, a delicacy obviously coveted by many of her customers.



*Happy Donuts employee Ana Lopez works from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. six nights a week, but she always finds time to sprinkle her customers with kindness.*  
PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

For four years, the short, brown-haired woman with bright-red nails and rosy cheeks has proudly worn the Happy Donuts uniform—a baby-blue apron with a dainty "Happy Donuts" emblem embroidered in the left corner. Her tour of duty has included four shops—the one on King Street in the South of Market area, two in San Mateo, and the Noe Valley store. She's worked various shifts, but prefers her current hours and the Noe Valley location.

"I don't have a boss when I work these hours," she says. "Nobody tells me what to do. I feel like I own my own business. The customers are very nice, and this is a very good neighborhood. It's just fun to work here."

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## 26th Street Firehouse Closed for Renovation

By Jim Christie

If you walk along 26th Street between Church and Dolores, you can't miss the large fire station with its three massive roll-up garage doors. But the building has a distinctly forlorn look these days—for good reason.

The 26th Street firehouse, officially known as Fire Station 11, was closed March 23 for seismic renovations and other improvements.

According to Fire Department spokespersons, work was expected to start in late April, with construction continuing for 9 or 10 months. The earliest the station might reopen will be December of this year.

The renovations are part of earthquake safety measures initiated following the Loma Prieta Earthquake of 1989. In the years since, voters have approved two bond measures providing funds to upgrade 41 fire stations.

Station 11, built in 1956, will undergo extensive repairs, including reinforcement of the building's front and rear walls, replacement of some windows with reinforced masonry, asbestos abatement, and installation of an "exhaust extraction" system to divert the noxious diesel fumes and black soot that usually result when fire engines start up.

In addition, work crews will install a handicapped-accessible restroom and reconfigure the bathrooms and locker rooms so that men and women firefighters can have separate facilities.

Prior to closing, the station housed more than 35 firefighters, spread over three shifts. Station 11 also was the best equipped of the five stations in its battal-

ion, being the only station to have both an engine company and truck (or ladder) company.

So how will the closure of Station 11 affect coverage of fire and medical emergencies in Noe Valley? Minimally—at least that's the consensus among the firefighters.

Capt. Doug Goodin, who works out of the Digby Street Station in Diamond Heights, says the four remaining stations in Battalion Six are well prepared to pick up the slack.

(In addition to the 26th Street and Digby firehouses, the battalion includes the Holly Park Circle Station in Bernal Heights; the station at 19th and Folsom streets in the Mission; and Noe Valley's historic Hoffman Avenue Station, a block from Alvarado School.)

"The temporary closure of Station 11 doesn't mean that there are fewer firefighters, EMT's [emergency medical technicians], ladder trucks, or engine companies available," Goodin explains.

"The people from Station 11 are still working—they're just at different stations. We think our response time for emergency situations will remain in the 3- to 3½-minute range, one of the best in the country."

Station 11's engine company, under the supervision of Capt. Rich Kochevar, was reassigned to the Holly Park Station. The members of No. 11's truck company, under Capt. Phil Leanio, transferred to 19th and Folsom.

Kochevar says Station 11 was "pretty active" before the move, handling some 7 to 10 calls per day. But he agrees with

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## 25 Candles On a Nursery School's Birthday Cake

By Denise Minor

For a quarter of a century, children at the Noe Valley Nursery School have climbed, played, screamed, and dreamed under the guidance of their parents and head teacher Nina Youkelson.

Last month, on the eve of the parent-run cooperative's 25th anniversary celebration, students took the opportunity to reflect on what they like best about their school.

"Carrots!" declared 3-year-old Helena Rose Karnilowicz.

"The toys and Nina," said Coleman David Rosenberg, 4. "This is the place I like more than any place in the world."

"I like some of the kids, but not all the kids," he added.

What does Eddie Dang, 4, like the most? "Nothing," he said with a shrug, then reconsidered. "I like people."

This rainbow of opinions reflects the rainbow of children and families who have participated over the years in this preschool success story. And they're all

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*Ciara Hogan knows the sky's the limit at the Noe Valley Nursery School, but first she'll try the tire swing.* PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP





### 24th Street Forever!

Editor:

Supervisor Bill Maher is submitting a proposal to change the name of 24th Street to Cesar Chavez Boulevard ["Good-bye 24th Street, Hello Cesar Chavez Boulevard?" April 1994]. Can you believe it?! An utterly ridiculous and unacceptable proposal.

I have had my office on 24th Street for the past 47 years. I have a mother who has been living on 24th Street for over 70 years. Twenty-fourth Street is, was, and has always been 24th Street for over 100 years!

I take serious offense at our politicians attempting to change the face of our city. We are not located on Cesar Chavez Boulevard, and we do not wish to be so located. If the good supervisor is so inclined to name a street after Cesar Chavez, I suggest he recommend that it be in Delano or Fresno or such other appropriate place. Just leave our 24th Street alone!

I hope others who share my opinion will write or call Supervisor Maher and other members of the board to bury this absurd plan.

Harry Aleo

Owner, Twin Peaks Properties  
24th Street

### Don't Pit the Branches Against the New Main

Editor:

Regarding Librarian Dorothy Coakley's opinion piece, "Woodsman, Spare That Branch Library," published in the April 1994 *Voice*, I would like to make the following points:

It is not a question of the Main Library vs. the branches, as the article implies. As a librarian who has worked in most of the branches as well as in the Main, I believe both offer unique but complementary services.

The Main Library contains an in-depth collection of books, periodicals, and information for all San Francisco residents—not just the "rich socialites, stockbrokers, and attorneys" referred to in the article. Furthermore, I believe that one cannot have a strong and effective branch library system without a strong and effective Main Library. It should never be a choice between the Main or the branches; the correct answer is that we need both.

To state that the "New Main Library will be located in a non-residential area and in what most consider to be a dangerous part of town" is as inaccurate as it is elitist. For the many residents of the Tenderloin and the Civic Center area, a population that includes new immigrants, the impoverished, and scores of children, this area is residential, and the Main Library is their neighborhood branch. These residents have as much right to an accessible library as do the residents of Noe Valley.

## LETTERS 29¢

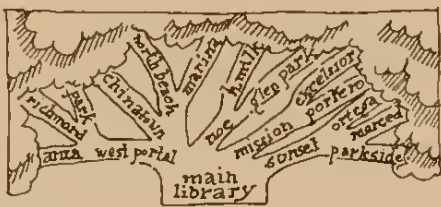
When the writer proclaims that "a neighborhood library can be operated at extremely low cost and without the aid of high-salaried administrators," what administrators is she referring to?

If she is referring to the Librarian II's, III's, and library technicians 3618's who currently manage the branches, they are hardly high-salaried, and administration is only a very small fraction of the many library tasks they perform. If she is referring to the chief and the assistant chief of branches, who jointly oversee and supervise all 27 branches, I doubt that the branch library system would run very efficiently without them.

Just as it is tempting to "blame" the poor economy on immigrants, rather than on a labyrinth of causes, it is equally tempting to blame the current malaise of the branches on an "easy" target like the New Main. Unfortunately, the truth is rarely that black and white.

Roberta Greifer  
Head Librarian

Noe Valley—Sally Brunn Branch



Editor:

Dorothy Coakley's "Bylines" piece in the April issue contains misinformation on the public library and its services.

The New Main Library will not be located in a non-residential area. More than 100,000 people use the Main Library as their neighborhood branch since it is the library outlet closest to their home.

It is not true that the Main Library mainly serves major business firms. The Children's Room is crowded every day with children from the Tenderloin. Our three children used the library when they were attending Lowell High School to write their term papers.

Our son was born with a rare birth defect. The Main Library staff performed a computer-assisted search of medical literature and we learned of a new operation for the problem. Our son underwent the operation and is in excellent health.

Voters interested in good library service, both at the Main Library and at the neighborhood branches, should support Proposition E on the June ballot. Proposition E will extend library hours and raise the inadequate book budget.

John Coll  
Amber Drive

Editor:

I was dismayed to read Dorothy Coakley's article in your April issue, although the title, "Woodsman, Spare That Library Branch," was an apt title for a librarian with an axe to grind.

The article wandered from peevish attacks on the City Librarian to pitting the branches against the New Main. The real issue is the threat of branch closures caused by decreasing funds, year after year.

I was the children's librarian at Noe Valley when Art Agnos threatened closing the branch. I worked at Potrero when it was saved from reading center status, but geared down from a two- to a one-librarian branch. I love my branch library too.

I don't have any brilliant ideas about where to come up with the needed funds while the city's budget continues to shrink. I don't know how to fix the economy so that San Francisco can offer its people decent services, including libraries. I do know that printing Dorothy Coakley's article only spread discontent at an already troubled time.

Rather than blame each other for the library's woes, let us work together to finance the library at a reasonable level. Write the library commissioners requesting them not to cut the library budget. Consider voting for the library amendment on the June ballot. For more information, contact Save San Francisco Libraries at 777-2340.

Most important, support your local branch and use it often.

Debby Jeffery

Children's Librarian, Main Branch  
San Francisco Public Library

Dorothy Coakley replies:

On Feb. 16, the San Francisco Library Commission voted to close 16 branch libraries, and not even one administrative position was considered for reduction. The public outcry was quite foreseeable. The piece I submitted to the *Noe Valley Voice* was my personal response to the situation.

I did not provide the title of the article, nor did I make reference to the New Main as being in a non-residential area. My exact words were, "The New Main is in an expensive and sometimes dangerous area of town."

Editorial decisions in the interest of brevity created several other similar nuances, but did not obscure the original intention of the piece. My critics (two current librarians and one retired librarian) seem to be too isolated from the public to have grasped the essential message.

To repeat the message for clarity: Keep the branch libraries open. People want full library service in their own neighborhoods.

Dorothy Coakley  
Children's Librarian  
Bernal Heights Branch



### THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

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### Spinelli's to the Rescue

Editor:

On behalf of the Noe Valley Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT), I would like to thank and congratulate the Spinelli Coffee Company on 24th Street for being the first Noe Valley merchant to tangibly support the efforts of our team.

Spinelli's donated delicious hot coffee to those who were present at our April 16 refresher drill at James Lick schoolyard. The coffee was also thoroughly enjoyed by the San Francisco firefighters from our local district (including the battalion chief for Engine 24 and Truck 11) who joined us for the event.

We sincerely appreciate the very professional and courteous treatment we received from Spinelli manager Shannon and staff members Jody and Cheryl.

Thanks also to the *Noe Valley Voice*, our fine neighborhood newspaper, for highlighting the event in the April issue. In the future, we hope to contact other Noe Valley area merchants to enlist their support.

Susan Stacks

Member, Noe Valley NERT  
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# The Queen of The Night Shift At Happy Donuts

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After her shift is over, Lopez retires to the home in Colma that she shares with her boyfriend of four years, Fausto, a construction worker. Her off-hours are spent cooking, cleaning, doing laundry, shopping, and, of course, sleeping.

"I'm a very sleepy person," she says. "I need at least 10 hours of sleep every day."

Lopez's parents and a sister also live in the Bay Area, along with her 25-year-old daughter, a former Happy Donuts employee who now works at the post office.

Lopez came to the United States in the early 1980s. She spent a year and a half studying accounting and word processing at a vocational school, but couldn't find an office job when she finished her coursework.

"I accepted this job until I could find another one, but now I like this job," she says as she sponges the counter top, the espresso machine, and the space where she makes sandwiches and hot dogs.

In between customers, Lopez sits across from me at one of the shop's faux-marble tables. As soon as a customer enters, she jumps from her seat, walks briskly behind the counter, smiles, and asks how she can help.

All of her interactions end with a sincere "Thank you very much. Have a nice evening." For Spanish-speaking clientele, it's "Muchas gracias" and a short conversation in español.

After-hours donut-eaters can be quite demanding, I observe. But Lopez doesn't seem to mind.

At 11:15 a young blond woman with a backpack comes in. "Do you have any donuts that are warm?" Lopez explains that the baker doesn't arrive until 2 a.m. Fresh donuts will appear from 3 to 7 a.m. The customer settles for one of the cake donuts in the display.

Another woman wants an old-fashioned—"but not that one. I want one with sprinkles." Lopez happily obliges. Next, a hefty man shows up and plunks down three quarters on the counter for a cup of coffee.

A newcomer explains that she's locked out of her apartment and will be waiting for her roommate to meet her at Happy Donuts. She orders one donut hole and sits at a table behind me, nibbling from two containers of Chinese food.

A Muni driver runs in and throws a buck on top of the table where Lopez and I are sitting. "Don't get up," he tells her, pouring a large cup of coffee. He runs out to the bus, which he left running. "Don't work too hard," he tells Lopez.

"I know all the regulars," Lopez says. "They get the same donut and come in at the same time almost every day. I don't have to ask them what they want, I already know."

Next, a couple of guys in grunge attire straggle in and order glazed donuts.

"I give all the police officers free coffee," Lopez notes. "They are good customers. They come in here and buy sandwiches and donuts."

A pause.

"Are you sure you don't want a donut?"

I shake my head no. Lopez looks disappointed.

More often than not, customers throw their spare change in the plastic cup marked "tips" on the counter.

"Every night is almost the same here,"



Ana Lopez often sneaks a pastry "surprise" into the bags of her regular customers. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS.

says Lopez. "One customer leaves and another customer comes in."

But her eyes widen as she tells me about the robbery that occurred during her shift several months ago. "It was exactly 2 a.m. There was \$60 in the register. Four customers were in the shop. A man jumps over the counter, holding a broken bottle as a weapon. I was speechless. I couldn't move."

"The baker was coming on his shift, and he saw the robber and hit him with a can opener. The robber ran out of the store with the baker and another person chasing after him."

Lopez says the man was not caught, but after the incident the donut shop owners installed surveillance cameras.

It's about 11:30 now, and two lovers, in matching black leather jackets, order his and hers lattes. He grabs her around the waist and pulls her against him. They whisper to one another in Spanish while Lopez works the espresso machine.

An overly chatty, middle-aged woman comes in the shop. "Remember me?" she asks Lopez. "I was here on Friday night and bought all the donut holes. But my husband gave most of them away. It's his Irish generosity." Tonight, she's back for more.

As Lopez bags the holes, the woman leans on the display, surveying the baked goods.

"I'm very interested in this thing. What is it?" she asks, setting the five packs of Pall Mall cigarettes she's holding on the counter.

"An apple fritter," Lopez tells her.

The woman pays and she's off.

"I like people," says Lopez. "Most customers are very nice here, but some are a little cuckoo."

"One man comes in all the time, and I used to joke with him. But he comes in drunk every night. He's a nice man, but he uses bad language, so one night I had to tell him please don't talk like that here. Please get out." (Lopez says he returned the next night and apologized to her.)

"He always pays with a twenty-dollar bill and doesn't want the change back," she says. "Once he left me a thirty-five-dollar tip. A police officer was sitting here and I think the man was afraid of him. I insisted he take the change, but he wouldn't."

"Some people make me mad, though," she continues. "I want to be nice to them, but I can't. I do not like kids who use bad language. And once there was a man who stayed outside the shop asking for money. Then he would shake the newspaper machines in front for change. I told him, 'That is not your property. You did not put the money in there. Do not do this.' He talked really badly to me."

Fridays and Saturdays are Lopez's busiest nights, but "most people don't sit around here," she says. "They just get their donuts and leave. I think it's because we don't allow smoking here anymore."

One of Lopez's on-the-job pleasures is using the custard pump behind the counter to fill chocolate and maple bars. "People get so excited when I give them some extra custard in the bars," she laughs.

"She's the best," says a twentysomething male who seems to be a bit tipsy from an evening at the Rat & Raven. "We come in all the time. She's the best all-night donut lady around. Everybody knows her."

An off-duty Ingleside police officer concurs as he orders a hot dog from Lopez. "She's the nicest lady going."

"He looks like Tom Cruise," Lopez interjects about the officer.

"No, more like Michael Keaton," I say. "Robert Stack. A young Robert Stack," she decides.

She's right. He does look like Robert Stack.

It's 11:50 and two on-duty cops from Ingleside stop by for coffee. "It's real quiet tonight," they inform the Robert Stack lookalike.

"See you Friday," he tells Lopez as he leaves.

A man named Alex stops in to talk to Lopez and the two cops.

"Jesus loves you. I love you, too," he says repeatedly.

"He's a Jesus freak," one of the cops whispers to me.

"Bye, bye, Alex," says Lopez.

As soon as those officers leave, another

two enter. They're here for coffee, and Lopez hands the female officer the hazelnut Coffeemate. "You can buy this for 99 cents at Safeway, but it's \$1.79 at Bell Market," Lopez informs her.

"We don't eat c.k.'s," the other cop remarks to me.

I look confused.

"Donuts are c.k.'s—cop killers," he explains.

"Some customers want low-calorie donuts," Lopez chimes in, laughing. Others want Happy Donuts to start serving breakfast. "I asked the owner," says Lopez, "but we can't do it because we don't have room for a grill here."

The smell of designer cologne wafts through the air as a dark-haired young man arrives.

"How have you been?" he asks Lopez.

"She's awesome, man. I love her," he says to me. He orders one crumb donut and leaves.

A security guard comes in and orders a ham sandwich.

"Do you want a sandwich? Please?" Lopez asks me, explaining how tasty a ham sandwich on a croissant is. "No, thank you. I'm really not hungry."

In the wee hours of the morning, old donuts are tossed out to make room for the freshly-baked. To avoid leftovers, Lopez often gives late-night customers extra donuts.

"I just put more in their bag, and then when they get home, they have a surprise," she laughs.

It's a little after midnight when we finish talking. Lopez is now trying to get one of her regulars—a San Francisco State student whom she helps with her homework for Spanish class—to let her make her a sandwich.

But when I get up to go, she again starts pressing me to take a few pastries.

"No, really, I can't, I..."

Well, for you, Ana, maybe just a donut hole. □

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## Fire Station Shuts Down for Nine Months

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Goodin, saying the neighborhood should not suffer in its absence.

Kochevar and Leanio admit that the truck company's being situated farther away could result in a somewhat slower response time to Noe Valley, but they think the difference will be negligible.

Perhaps of greater concern to Noe Valley residents is the possibility that two fire stations might be closed at the same time. And there's a chance that could happen, since the 81-year-old Hoffman Station is also slated for seismic work and might be shut down before Station 11 reopens.

Capt. Bill Shore, who oversees the Fire Department's seismic renovations city-wide, acknowledged that "there could be a little overlap, maybe a month or two during which work begins on Hoffman Avenue and Station 11 is not ready to reopen."

But he advised citizens to view the renovation work in a positive light. If there is one group of people who should be able to respond effectively in an earthquake or emergency situation, it is the firefighters, Shore said, and to do so, they must have safe facilities from which to operate.

Meanwhile, the firefighters of Battalion Six expressed confidence that they could maintain their current level of performance, in the event that two stations were closed simultaneously.

"We may have moved to the heart of the Mission here at 19th and Folsom," said Capt. Leanio, "but the 26th Street Station has always been the backbone of the Mission. In fact, we are called 'The Pride of the Mission,' and we'll be back." □

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# A Nursery School That Nurtures Free Spirits

*Continued from Page 1*

throwing a 25th anniversary party on May 6 at the Noe Valley Ministry, which houses the co-op at 1021 Sanchez St.

On Saturday, May 7, celebrants will also gather for a potluck at the children's playground in Douglass Park, the place where six mothers first came up with the idea of starting a co-op preschool based on a philosophy of unstructured freedom.

"In all these years, there hasn't been any change in philosophy," says Youkelson, who for 25 years has been the co-op's only director. Children are allowed to play where, when, and with what they want, with as much freedom and little regulation as possible, she adds.

Parent Karen Soleau, whose son Kwesi, 4, attends the school, is an enthusiastic supporter of the "just-about-anything-goes" policy. "Kids can come here and let loose. There are almost no restrictions, so they can learn and play at their own pace. It's great that way, because as soon as they get into kindergarten, that freedom is over."

She believes the high level of parent involvement is also a plus. "The reason this school is so great is that parents bring what's going on in their life here to teach the kids about it. If a mother likes chess, she'll come in and teach the children who want to know a little about chess. If a parent has to change a tire, he might take some kids out and show them how a tire is changed."

Parent participation is the cornerstone of the school, with each member family sending an adult to work at least one day a week. Right now, there are about 30 families in the co-op and a list of 12 waiting to get in.

The monthly fee is \$119 for five days a week, \$96 for four days, and \$73 for three days. For an extra fee, children can attend Monday and Friday afternoon sessions as well. Scholarships are available for those who cannot afford the tuition.

Each family must send a parent, grandparent, or other childcare provider to work once a week on the 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. shift. There are normally six parents, plus Youkelson and her assistant, Toni Gill, supervising the 24 children each morning.

"Some parents are naturals. They are born to do this, and feel comfortable and happy with children," said Youkelson. "And others don't. They're singular and stay to themselves. It's hard for them to work with others."

Terrible conflicts have arisen between parents, even loud arguments in the street. But "it's all grist for the co-op mill," said Youkelson. "In order for this place to work, we have to take into account the enormous differences between people."

"It's the same with children," she continued. "Some don't want to go swimming. Some don't want to paint. That has to be respected."

This attitude by the person at the school's helm has been the glue that has held the nursery school together, according to Gill. "She's amazing. All the kids love her."

Originally from New York City, Youkelson came to San Francisco in 1959 with her husband and infant son. About six months after arriving, she joined a cooperative nursery school that she was involved in for nine years, until her son and the two babies that followed were all in elementary school. When she applied for the directorship of the newly formed Noe Valley cooperative in 1969, she won the parents over with her easy, loving manner.

Now she is grandmother to 6-year-old Lizzie, a graduate of the school.



*Michael Brown gets a kick out of digging a hole in the ground at the Noe Valley Nursery School, a parent co-op started in 1969. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP.*

Although the co-op's basic philosophy has remained constant, there has been a change in the last 10 years in terms of what parents expect from the school, said Youkelson. "Parents are more fearful. The world has changed, and that has affected the way they expect the school to be run."

They are afraid, for instance, of strange people wandering into the school, or that a child might be kidnapped.

"None of this is crazy. It's a response to real things going on in the world," said Youkelson. On the other hand, it has its negative aspect.

"We used to be much more spontaneous. If it was a nice day, we'd just pile the kids in cars and go to the beach," she recalled. "Now we need to give notification and get signed releases for all field trips."

Youkelson has accommodated this new demand for tighter security, but it goes against the grain. "I'm a risk-taker," she said. "I encourage kids to do things that are scary and hard, so they can fully live their lives."

Coleman David Rosenberg interrupted at this point to ask Youkelson what the rubber toy in his hand was.

"It's a collared lizard. It's not a dinosaur," she said. "It lives in Australia."

"Why does it have sharp teeth?" asked Coleman.

"Because it eats other animals. Animals that eat other animals have sharp teeth," she explained. "Animals that eat grass, like cows, have flat teeth. People eat both animals and plants, so we have sharp teeth in front and flat teeth in back."

"Why's his leg broken off?" Coleman continued.

"That I can't answer."

When students want a second opinion on the nature of the universe, they often turn to Gill, who served as the co-op's tour guide one morning last month.

One of the first things to strike a visitor to the nursery school is the sense of cacophony. But the noise level is what might be expected from any gathering of children between the ages of 2½ and 5.

Artwork in brilliant blues, reds, and oranges hangs from the walls. Origami doves dangle from mobiles. Beat-up toys are scattered across the floor, under the used sofas, and in the nooks and crannies of handmade shelves.

"This is the art room, but it becomes the snack room when it's time to eat," said Gill, motioning to the room closest to the kitchen.

"And this is the quiet room. But it's almost never quiet," she continued, pointing to the adjacent room. Up high in one corner of the quiet room is a loft constructed by parents two years ago. A bright yellow ladder leads up to a little room with a painted-on window looking out at a green field with sunshine and a rainbow.

"That is the tricycle room," said Gill, pointing to the largest room, which adjoins the art and quiet rooms. "But we clean it up at noon and it becomes the senior lunch room."

As she spoke, lunch providers were setting up tables and chairs for the Noe Val-

ley Senior Center, whose members were beginning to arrive for their midday meal.

"Kids get to be around seniors every day," she said. "It's good for them to have that interaction."

Every November, in fact, these same seniors, as well as alumni, family, and friends, are invited to a Thanksgiving feast prepared by the co-op as a gift to the community. It's a big celebration, usually with a turnout of a couple of hundred people, ranging from newborns to octogenarians.

There is little in the way of agenda at the Noe Valley Nursery School, except that every Thursday the kids go swimming at the Recreation Center for the Handicapped. And one Tuesday a month they walk to the neighborhood library for a movie. Occasionally they make an outing to the park, zoo, beach, or other places.

On a Tuesday in April, the kids poured into the school, exuberant from a trip to the Hoffman firehouse.

"We went on the red truck," said Molly

Conso, 4. "And we wore the big hats and got to spray the hose."

They arrived at noon, just in time for lunch. Most kids bring a lunch box, but parents sometimes prepare something extra. "Every once in a while I cook pasta for all the kids," said Gill. "And they help me."

Gill originally came to the co-op three years ago as a childcare provider for Rico Duenas, who is now 5 years old and attends Rooftop kindergarten. Since Duenas' parents both had full-time jobs, they hired Gill to care for their children, which included filling in for them on their work days at the co-op.

Gill meshed so well with the school that she stayed on as a part-time employee, even after Rico graduated to kindergarten. Her 10-year-old daughter, Jillian Ritner, and Jillian's friend Ellery Allen, a co-op graduate, also help out on Friday afternoons.

"My daughter loves this place," said Gill. "She wishes I'd have known about it when she was little, so she could have come."

From the beginning, Gill was impressed with the school's live-and-let-live philosophy. She immediately noticed, for example, how Rico's physically- and developmentally-disabled sister Margie, now 10, was welcomed at the co-op.

"She wasn't turned away," said Gill. "She was embraced."

Margie still attends the program, and Rico still drops by after kindergarten sometimes. "Some of the kindergarteners miss this place," notes Gill. "They come hang out when they get out of school."

"Even some of the parents miss it and stop by," she added. "This is the kind of place where you can always come in off the street for a cup of coffee and good conversation." □



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Twenty-five years of alumni, not just the Class of '93 shown here, are expected to attend the Noe Valley Nursery School's family potluck May 7 at Douglass Park. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

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## 25 Years of Love: A Portrait of Nina

By Emme Klama-Levine

When you walk into the Noe Valley Ministry in the late morning, you'll often see a stately older woman with sparkling blue eyes and a long gray braid sitting on a battered tweed couch, surrounded by a flock of wiggling kids. As she turns the pages of a picture book, she radiates an inner as well as outer beauty, despite the arthritis that on bad days holds her in a painful grip.

The storyteller is Nina Youkelson, director of the Noe Valley Nursery School since its founding in 1969. (*See story, starting page 1.*)

And talespinning is just one of her talents. She is mother, teacher, mentor, spiritual leader, friend, and ally to hundreds—maybe thousands—of children and parents. And she has been all these things, season after season, for 25 years.

What person can you think of who has had the same job for 25 years? Nina's long tenure is a reflection of her love for children, as well as the pure joy she brings to her job and to the lives of others. How has she done it? I decided to ask a few of the people who have involved themselves with Nina and the school, past and present.

I caught up with the first president of the school, Donna Andrews, at a planning meeting for the 25th anniversary party the nursery school is having this month. Donna was one of the school's founders, back when she and several other mothers used to gather with their toddlers at Douglass Park.

"As we looked around and saw what was available in the way of preschools, we weren't happy," she said. "And we thought, wouldn't it be incredible if we started our own school."

The women decided not to pursue funding from the San Francisco School District, because of restrictions that might have been attached. Instead, they pooled their talents and financial resources and set about to hire a teacher. Nina Youkelson was chosen as someone who both children and parents could look to for inspiration and guidance.

"Twenty-five years later, when you tell me what you're getting from this experience, it's so much the same as what I got," said Donna. "That's because there's been all that continuity with the same teacher. The spirit has not left the school. I get chills, actually. It's just beautiful!"

Times have changed for the neighborhood and the nursery school since the freewheeling '60s, but Nina has continued to fight for tolerance and social justice. That is the picture I got from Toni Gill, who's been at the school for the past three years.

Toni recalls, "When I first got here, I felt like an outsider, because I was the

only black woman and the school is primarily white. I experienced some prejudice which scared me.

"But Nina accepted me with open arms. She acknowledged my presence, my heritage. She is a very wise woman. When I walk through that door, I feel more love than in any other place, other than home. If I had been at another childcare center, I don't think the racial issue would have been dealt with as openly and as sensitively."

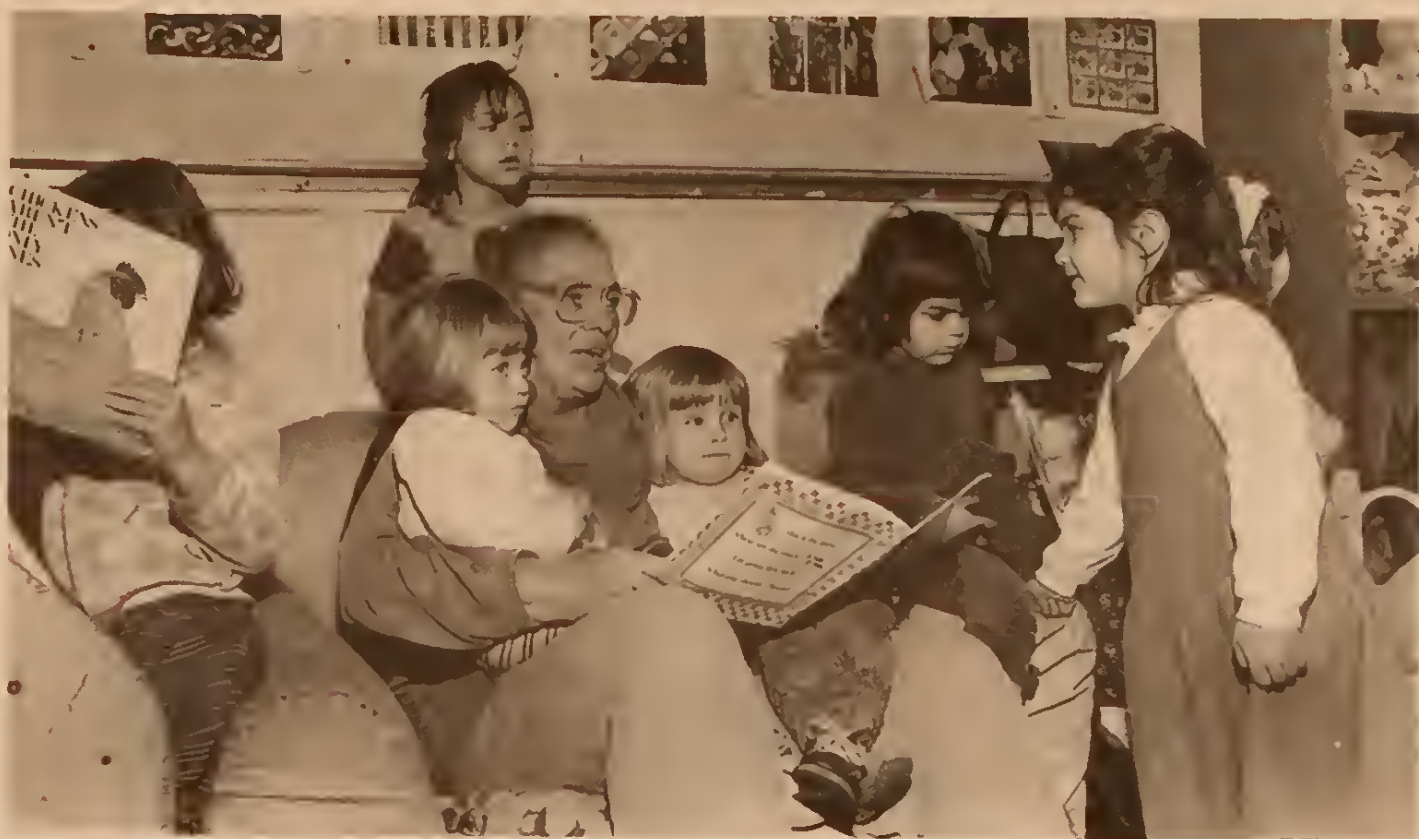
For the children, Nina has always fostered an atmosphere of freedom and creativity—the kind of unstructured environment that allows kids to explore who they really are, not just what adults want them to be.

She is an exceptionally gifted teacher, but not in the traditional academic sense. The lessons she teaches have a spiritual message of love, respect for other living things, and the unselfish giving of oneself.

For example, at one of our bimonthly parent meetings, Nina started to talk about art projects parents could do with their children at Easter time. As an accomplished artist herself, her ideas flow freely. But instead of saying, well, you could do this or that, she turned the conversation into an impassioned lesson on how to give our children more than "just the lowest common denominator."

She wanted us to forget about doing cutouts of bunnies and eggs. "Think about what spring really means," she suggested. "It's the renewal of life, the seed that is planted and nurtured to growth. It's the time when this mysterious life force itself is renewed."

She talked about how, living in the city, we can forget what spring is all about, and neglect to pass its meaning on to our children, simply because we are too busy.



Kids have to take turns for a lapsit with Nina Youkelson, their favorite storyteller at the Noe Valley Nursery School. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

This 25th-anniversary year, we are experiencing the kind of spring Nina was describing. We have a parent member, Kim Shuck, who was herself a child at the school during the first year of its existence. She has now returned and enrolled a child of her own.

Kim, a Native American, recalls the school as being "a process of synergy that had Nina as its center. My generation has a lot more Republicans, but the founding parents were able to hold onto the best part of the '60s."

Throughout the years, a divergent, sometimes even discordant group of people shared a common thread that was woven into a wonderful, spiritual tapestry of love. Nina Youkelson was that thread.

We invite the community to join us in a celebration honoring Nina on Friday,

May 6, from 7 to 10 p.m., at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Come for food and drinks (grown-ups only, please). Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Help us raise a retirement fund for a woman who is an incredible resource to this neighborhood.

The next day, Saturday, May 7, all generations (especially the littlest one) will be welcome at our family potluck from noon to 6 p.m. at the children's playground at Douglass Park (Douglass and 26th streets). For information about either of these events, call 647-2278. □

Emme Klama-Levine, husband Andy Levine, and sons David, 8½, and Teddy, 3½, have been loving friends of Nina and participants in the Noe Valley Nursery School since 1990.



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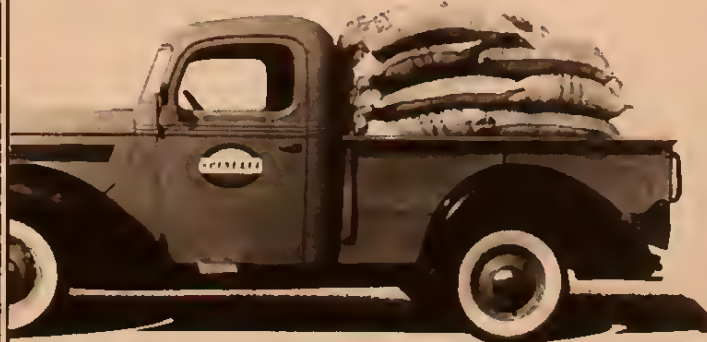
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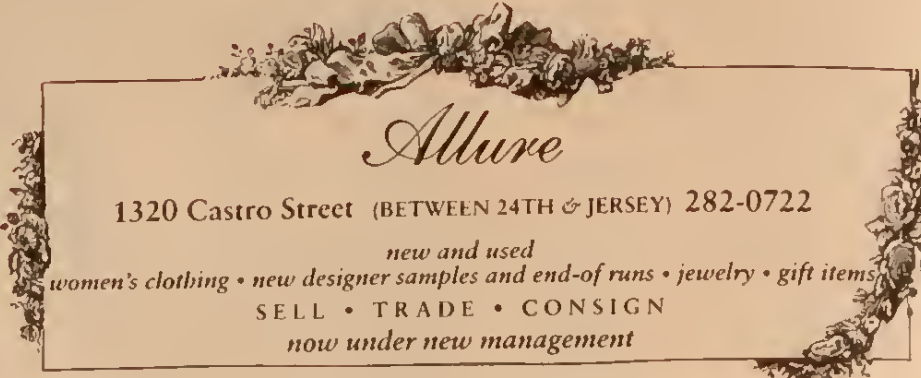
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## Cultivating the Art of Breastfeeding

By Irene Kane

*Editor's note: At the request of La Leche League, mothers referred to and pictured in this story use only first names.*

When Susan, a Noe Valley resident, was nursing her 15-month-old daughter a year or so ago, she had "a strong need to be around mothers who were supportive of breastfeeding a toddler."

Around the same time, some of her friends were voicing concerns and difficulties they were having as they breastfed their infants. "They had no one to call nor any place to go with their questions," Susan recalls.

Because breastfeeding was (and continues to be) such a "rewarding and successful experience" for Susan, she and two other mothers decided the perfect solution would be to start a breastfeeding support group. In July of 1993, Natural Resources, the childbirth resource center on 24th Street, offered them a meeting space and began referring interested mothers to the group.

Over the next month, Susan was encouraged by the response, and glad to be a "mother helping other mothers," she says. But she also realized her limitations. She was not a lactation consultant, a professional expert in the field, and she worried that as a group leader she might misdiagnose a situation.

So, in August of last year, she and other members of the Noe Valley group became affiliated with La Leche League International, a non-profit organization founded in 1956 that is now active in 48 countries. Based in Illinois, La Leche (the Spanish word for milk, pronounced "lay-chay") offers practical and moral

support to nursing mothers, through monthly meetings and telephone help.

"They also provide resources, such as library books and information sheets on topics ranging from *Sore Breasts* to *Breastfeeding Twins* to *How to Breastfeed an Adopted Baby*," Susan points out. "We wanted to make these materials available to mothers."

The Noe Valley group, which is the only La Leche League chapter in San Francisco at this time, meets the third Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. Each meeting covers a specific topic, such as the physical and emotional rewards of breastfeeding, nutrition and weaning, and the family and society's response to women who breastfeed their babies.

Susan emphasizes, however, that the selected themes provide only a framework for discussion. Participants are free to share or ask whatever is of particular concern at the moment.

Current attendance at the Thursday meetings averages 25 moms and 30 children, ranging in age from newborn to 5½ years. About half of the mothers live in Noe Valley.

Octavia Street resident Mary Beth, who is nursing a 2-year-old son, travels across town to attend the group. A third-generation Japanese American, Mary Beth appreciates the "variety of moms of different ethnic backgrounds. You learn how mothers nurse in other cultures—it's eye-opening."

Many women in the group are either home full-time with their children or have home-based businesses. Others may come to meetings for the first few months after their baby's birth, then return to work.

Susan notes that La Leche League en-

courages working mothers to pump their breast milk, so that their babies can be fed with mother's milk, an infant food that's much superior to formula.

She goes on to say that "La Leche League mothers believe in extended breastfeeding. According to the World Health Organization, the average worldwide age for weaning is 4 years and 2 months. In the U.S., the average weaning age is 6 months. Only 6 percent of babies in the U.S. are breastfed past one year." Ideally, she says, breastfeeding should continue until the baby outgrows the need.

Susan also believes that "breastfeeding is a learned art. The way a mother learns is by watching another mother or from pictures."

She relates the story of a gorilla raised in captivity at the Toledo Zoo who was unable to nurse her newborn because she didn't know what to do. The baby was taken away. When the same gorilla became pregnant again, zookeepers called the La Leche League and arranged for a nursing mother to come to the zoo twice a week, sit a few feet in front of the gorilla, and feed her baby.

Susan says the gorilla's initial response to her tutor was to turn her back, since she was unaccustomed to having anyone but the zookeeper near her. Gradually, however, she began to sit down and watch when the mother and baby arrived. Her next step was to look down at herself and pull at her nipples.

When the baby gorilla was born, the mother touched and caressed her baby, and nursed it very successfully.

La Leche League of San Francisco (the group's official title) invites mothers to attend the first two meetings free of charge. "We want to ensure that mothers

Local moms and babies who are eager to extoll the virtues of breastfeeding are (from left, moms listed first) Lisa and Trevor, Helen and Danielle, Mary and Yoshie, Judy and Devon, Shoshana and Emilio, Beth and Kali, and Susan and Arianthé.

PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

have a successful breastfeeding experience," says Susan. "After the second meeting, mothers are encouraged to become members."

For a \$30 annual fee, La Leche League members receive a bimonthly journal called *New Beginnings*, a 10 percent discount on purchases from the organization's catalog, and use of the group's lending library.

In addition, they can attend "enrichment" meetings, held every other week in the members' homes. These explore such topics as home schooling, toddler nutrition, and the stresses of motherhood. The group also holds special meetings to which fathers are invited.

Susan has recently become accredited as a La Leche group leader. (Trainees are required to do extensive readings from the organization's recommended lists, as well as attend workshops and conferences, conduct meetings under supervision, and pass an oral exam.)

She is available for phone consultations, or for home visits if a mother has a serious problem with breastfeeding her child. She notes that "good positioning and latch-on will prevent sore nipples, as well as give the baby more milk for his or her efforts."

To find out more, you are welcome to give her a call at 282-7816. For La Leche League brochures, drop by Natural Resources at 4081 24th St. (The monthly meetings are held behind the shop at 4077½A 24th St.) □

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# Library Looks For Ways to Pinch Pennies

By Loren J. Bialik

For seven years, due to steadily shrinking coffers, the city has threatened to close or drastically reduce services at the branch libraries. And for seven years neighborhood residents have begged to keep them open.

As reported in the March issue of the *Voice*, 1994 is no exception. At the first of the year, Mayor Frank Jordan asked the San Francisco Library Commission to devise ways to reduce its \$17 million budget by \$450,000 for fiscal year 1994-95.

And like clockwork, in February the commission began circulating a plan to close at least 11 of the city's 26 neighborhood branches.

There are two new sideshows this year, however. First, a group of library patrons has placed a charter amendment on the June ballot (Proposition E), which would require that all 26 branches remain open with full funding until the year 2009. But since the measure would tie the mayor's hands, he's campaigning against it.

Second, in late February, Jordan fired all but one of the seven members of the Library Commission, saying they had failed to follow his directive to cut the budget without shutting down branches. He then appointed six new commissioners, who are currently scrambling to find the resources to keep the library operating "on an even keel," as Commissioner Norman Wechsler puts it.

At a finance meeting April 12, the new commissioners reviewed a document titled "Cost Recovery and Revenue Enhancement," prepared by City Librarian Ken Dowlin.

The report suggested several ways the library system could generate more income next year, short of closing branches:

- **Charge for electronic information services.** Under a fee-for-service plan for special electronic services, patrons would pay \$5 per transaction to receive full-text articles via computer modem or fax machine from the library's existing on-line system. They would pay \$12 per transaction to access data from networks outside the library system.

- **The report envisions increasing revenues by \$78,000 per year from these services.** However, Robert Greifer, head librarian at the Noe Valley branch on Jersey Street, doubts their feasibility. "I question whether the library has the staff to conduct these electronic searches."

- **Recoup fines and the cost of stolen or lost books.** By retaining the services of a collection agency, the library could recover close to \$400,000 in uncollected



*How to Drive Your Message Home: This "art car" parked at Church and Day streets paints a stark portrait of the consequences of destroying the world's forests. PHOTO BY PAMELA GERARD*

fines and \$2.4 million in lost or stolen books.

There's a catch, though. The way it stands now, revenue from such sources automatically reverts to the city's general fund rather than to the public library. The library commissioners say they are working with the mayor and Board of Supervisors to find a way to earmark this money for the libraries.

- **Hire outside custodians and bookshelvers.** Assuming it could find a private organization that would work for less than city workers, the library believes it could save about \$90,000 a year by contracting out its janitorial services.

However, Cathy Bremer, chief steward for the Library Guild, which is part of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), says this idea has definite drawbacks. "The city would have to pay the fired employees their severance pay, which is a week's pay for each year worked. Some of those custodians (many of whom are minorities and women) have worked for the city for 20 to 25 years," she said.

The library is also considering farming out the job of shelving library materials, but so far the San Francisco Conservation Corps has been the only group to express an interest. Corps members have offered to do the work for \$16.50 an hour, which is \$5.62 higher than the amount current library employees earn (\$10.88).

- **Renegotiate certain employee costs.** By eliminating premiums paid to library

employees who are bilingual, work evenings, supervise volunteers, or who do a large volume of word processing, the library thinks it could save \$400,000.

Another \$100,000 could be saved by creating a new "shelver" job category. Unlike library pages—who now perform other functions besides putting books away—a "shelver" would only be responsible for shelving library materials. And he or she would make \$6 an hour.

A major stumbling block to any changes along these lines is pending litigation between the city and the SEIU, which represents 13,000 employees citywide. But if the contract remains as is, and city employees receive a proposed 2 percent salary increase, the library says it hopes to offset that increase by reducing the library staff's workweek from 40 to 37.5 hours.

At the April 12 meeting, the commissioners also heard additional suggestions from the floor: The library could increase the fees paid for overdue books, and charge the public for use of its meeting rooms, for instance. But they put off formally adopting any of the measures.

To get more public input, the Library Commission will continue to hold hearings this month, starting with a full meet-

ing of the board Tuesday, May 3, 4:30 p.m., in the Lurie Room of the Main Library. It plans to submit its final budget to the mayor by June 1.

In the meantime, Commissioner Jan Zivic has asked the library staff to take a look at converting the branches to reading centers. "The commission needs updated figures on what it would cost to run a reading center and what it now costs to run a branch library," she said.

Although they're not her personal preference, reading centers are "one option we have to analyze, if it turns out that these other revenue enhancement proposals are not viable," Zivic explained.

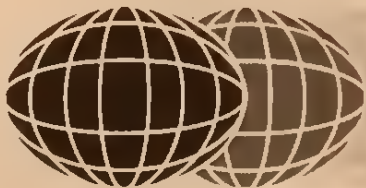
At a reading center, patrons can still borrow books, but there is no librarian to assist them, just a library technician. Reading centers are open only 20 hours a week, and generally have a reduced volume of books.

In librarian Greifer's eyes, a reading center doth not a library make.

"People will see the library doors open and breathe a sigh of relief," said Greifer. "But the children growing up today don't know what a good library is. And when they grow up and have children, they will have no idea what a library is or what it could be." □

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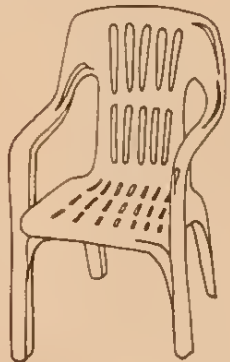
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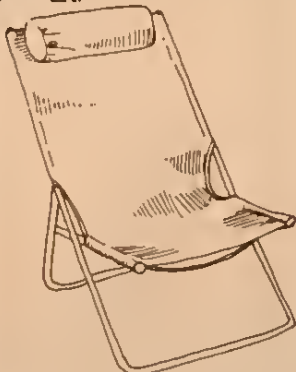


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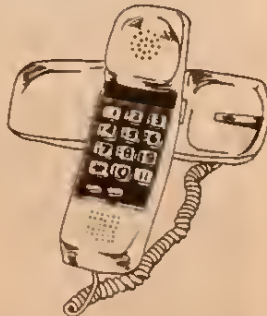
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## Back to the '50s

It's Noe Valley History Month again at the Noe Valley Library, and you can travel back to the 1950s this time around.

Two neighborhood groups, the East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club and Friends of Noe Valley, sponsor the annual display, which features artifacts, newspapers, photographs, and other memorabilia from a particular period in Noe Valley (or San Francisco) history.

According to "curator" Paul Kantus, who's also chief caretaker of the Noe Valley Archives, this year's exhibit will offer 10 panels of front pages from San Francisco newspapers, one for each year of the 1950s.

"I even found one-newspaper with the headline, 'Oppenheimer Charged,'" says Kantus, referring to nuclear physicist Robert Oppenheimer, who long after his death is still facing accusations of passing secrets to the Soviets.

There also will be a panel filled with 1950s movie memorabilia and another devoted to the Korean War.

The exhibit will be on display at the library (451 Jersey St.) throughout the month of May. However, neighborhood residents are especially invited to attend an open house and reception on Sunday, May 15, from 2 to 5 p.m.

Members of the Singing Rainbows will put in an appearance at 3 p.m., and assorted film clips and a video of "San Francisco in the '50s" will be shown during the afternoon. The event will also feature free refreshments.

If you'd like to help out with the party or add your memories to the Archives, call Kantus at 647-3753.

## Sad Graduation Day

On the same day as Noe Valley History Day—Sunday, May 15, at 2:30 p.m.—St. Paul's Church, at Church and Valley streets, will hold a Thanksgiving mass in commemoration of the closing of a Noe Valley institution: St. Paul's High School.

Sister Maureen O'Brien, the school's principal for 21 years and a graduate of the school herself, said the mass will be

# SHORT TAKES



In 1950 when this photo was taken, 24th Street had a movie theater and a gas station at the corner of Noe Street. These and other gems from the Noe Valley of the '50s will be displayed at the Noe Valley Library this month. PHOTO COURTESY OF PAUL KANTUS

for "blessings received," and that all members of the community are invited to attend.

St. Paul's High School for girls, located at 317 29th St., has served Noe Valley and other neighborhoods for 77 years. According to the San Francisco Archdiocese, it must close its doors because the church has been unable to raise the funds to bring the school buildings up to earthquake safety standards.

The last official day of school will be June 3, and on the following day, June 4, 54 young women will graduate.

Most of the school's undergraduates will attend Immaculate Conception High School, at 24th and Guerrero, or Mercy High School next year.

When asked what she'll be doing once the school closes, Sister O'Brien laughingly replied, "Have you ever heard of unemployment?" She and her assistant principal, Sister Karen Conover, are planning to take a sabbatical, which will include learning Spanish in Mexico. Then they'll be looking for a new ministry.

## Kids and Careers

Alvarado Elementary School will sponsor its seventh annual Career Day on Thursday, June 2. The event, which takes place at the school at 625 Douglass St., introduces third-, fourth-, and fifth-graders to the variety of jobs available in today's marketplace.

Career Day coordinator Victoria Camp is scouting the neighborhood for volunteers who would be willing to come into the school for three hours, from 8:45 to 11:30 a.m., to share stories and information about their careers. Past programs have included professionals, union members, artisans, and public service workers.

If you would like to participate—and meet the future workers of America face to face—give Camp a call at 695-5695.

## Church Street Fair

A festive sidewalk sale is set to take place Saturday, June 4, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Church Street between 29th and 30th streets. Sponsored by the 20-member Outer Noe Valley Merchants Association, the event promises to be a lively mix of food, fun, and music.

Tom Maravilla, co-owner of the new MikeyTom Market, located at Church and Day streets, says the merchants of Church Street "want to draw attention to the fact that there is a business community, a viable business center, beyond 24th Street."

"We want to introduce this neighborhood," agrees Andy Kapiniaris, proprietor of 30th Street's Verona Restaurant and Pizza.

According to James Appenrodt of Laurel Realty, outer Noe Valley is bounded on the east and west by Guerrero and Diamond streets, and on the north and south by 27th and 30th streets. The merchants association currently counts among its members Mitchell's Ice Cream, Greenbergs, Omega Television, Top Drawer, Just for You Too, Drewes Meat Market, and Church Produce.

Organizers of the sidewalk sale are making space available to craftspeople for a nominal \$15 fee. They are also still looking for musicians.

Give Appenrodt a call at 641-1500 if you'd like to get involved.

## The Haight Revisited

Put on your love beads and your thinking cap, and you and a friend could be guests of honor at a "Summer of Love" walking tour in the Haight Ashbury, happening daily through Labor Day.

The tour features a visit to some of the grooviest historical sites of the 1960s, including the house where the Grateful Dead lived, the Straight Theatre, where

*Continued on Page 15*

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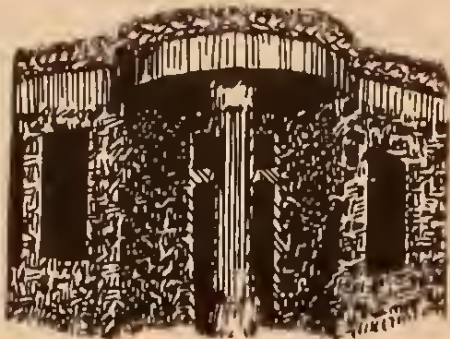
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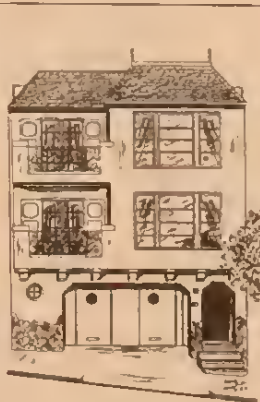


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Continued from Page 13

Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin performed, and the first free medical clinic in the United States.

It is sponsored by Anna Boothe, proprietor of Fiesta Tours on Clipper Street, and she's having a contest for this year's tour. To win two tour tickets, plus lunch at Zare's Courtyard on Haight Street, just cast your vote for the best tour slogan. So far, the slogan finalists are "The Real Dope on the Haight Ashbury" and "The Magical Hippie Tour."

Mail your choice, on a postcard or in an envelope, along with your name, address, and telephone number to Fiesta Tours, 660 Clipper St., No. 317, S.F., CA 94114. Entries must be received by Saturday, May 14. After determining which of the slogans has gotten the most votes, Boothe will randomly select a contest winner.

The winner will be announced at the tour on Saturday, May 21, which begins at 1 p.m. at the Red Victorian Hotel, 1655 Haight St. (Winners need not be present to win.) For details, call Fiesta Tours at 648-3352.

### Homestays Needed

The San Francisco International Program (SFIP)—a non-profit organization that brings mid-level professionals from around the world to this country to take part in a four-month job-training program—is seeking homestays for its participants.

The spring 1994 program will bring to the Bay Area six professional women from Albania, Lithuania, Romania, Iceland, and Malta, who need accommodations for May 6 through June 3, June 3 through July 4, or July 4 through Aug. 19.

Their job placements will be with the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, the San Francisco Homeless Prenatal Program, the Global Cities Project, the Richmond Area Multi-Services Center, the Marin County Department of Health and Human Services, and the Marin County Day School Summer Adventure Program.

Noe Valley hosts would be asked to provide a private bedroom, food for meals that can be prepared by the participants themselves (breakfast and dinner on weekdays, and three meals on weekends), and help with learning public transportation routes.

For more information, call program director Marilyn Herand at 693-0547.

## SHORT TAKES



Those who enroll in a NERT training course starting June 1 will learn how to turn off their gas valves, among other skills. Shown participating in an earthquake drill are (clockwise from left) Mark Mackler, Terry Vargas, Marjorie Sheffield, Dawn Scribner, Sherry Anderson, John Sebastian (with flashlight), Stephanie Voss, and Susan Stacks. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

### NERT Alert

From June 1 to July 6, the San Francisco Fire Department will conduct a series of training sessions in Noe Valley for those who'd like to join its Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT). According to NERT member Patti Oli-

ver, the program will teach neighborhood residents how to act as leaders directing untrained volunteers in the event of an earthquake or other emergency. Participants in the training will learn basic emergency skills, such as how to give first-aid, perform search and rescue, extinguish small fires, and shut off gas and water valves.

The Noe Valley classes will be held on six consecutive Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 or 9 p.m. at Upper Noe Valley Recreation Center, located on Sanchez between 30th and Day streets.

A \$25 fee (which is waivable for those who can't afford to pay) includes a manual, vest, and a hard hat. For more information about the Noe Valley classes, call Oliver at 695-0700. For a schedule of other NERT trainings around the city from May through October, call 861-8000, ext. 285.

### Financial Fitness

Women with a yen to learn more about how to handle their personal finances may want to check out a new women's group in Noe Valley. It's an investment club, started last October by financial planner Elizabeth Domike, and it meets one Friday a month at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St.

According to member Cathy Mosbrucker, the club is a great way for women without a lot of financial planning experience to explore the world of investing: "No one's embarrassed to express their ignorance, and everyone's extremely supportive," she says.

Speakers are invited to the meetings, to address such topics as credit unions, taxes, and insurance. Domike also makes herself available to answer questions that come up in the group, which is currently comprised of 15 women of all ages.

In addition, members sometimes go on field trips. They recently toured the floor of the Pacific Stock Exchange, an experience that Mosbrucker described as "chaotic. There were people shouting and throwing things. It made investing seem more real."

There is no cost to be in the club, but members are planning to pool their resources (along the the lines of \$25 a month per member) to make some investments as a group. "We've decided that we want to invest in environmentally sound companies that treat their employees well," Mosbrucker says. In addition, they're thinking about joining the National Association of Investment Clubs, which costs \$12 per year.

To find out how to become a member, call Domike at 285-5648.

*This month's Short Takes were written and compiled by Jane Underwood, Mark Scott, Peter Baum, Michele Lynn, and Jim Christie.* □

## Portraits



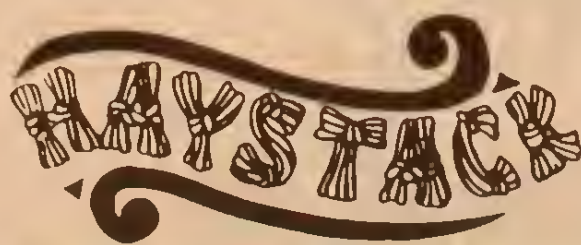
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# Noe Valley's Full-Court Press



**Hoopng and Hollaring:** St. Philip's School at 24th and Diamond streets is proud of this year's third-grade boys basketball team. The kids were champs in their division, after dunking St. Brendan's in a 17-9 victory this spring. Pictured (back row) are Jeremy Holman, Sean Malley, Jason Cannata, Flynn Hagerty, Moses Sala, and Coach Bill Holman. Front row: Danny Sojat, Shane Ames, Buddy Fields, and Tony Horn. PHOTO COURTESY GINGER KARELS



**Upper Noe Jumps Up:** The 1994 haskethall all-stars at Upper Noe Recreation Center, Sanchez and Day streets, featured seven players in the 9-and-under category. Shown here standing with Coach Kevin Black are (from left) Seymore Silva, Carlos Iglesia, and Zachery Fischer. Kneeling: Zachery Slater, Anthony Capwell, Charlie Cook, and Scott Streeter. PHOTOS COURTESY KEVIN BLACK



Upper Noe hoopsters who played this spring in the 11-and-under division were (front row) Curlo Solis, John Schaumburg, Teddy Young, Jacob Arbunich; (back row) Eduardo Guzman, Jack Bay, Anthony Black, John Conidi, and Coach Mark Arbunich with mascot Jeremy Black.



Making up Upper Noe's 15-and-under team were (front row) Jackie Esposito (ussistant), Lars Tergis, Ben Kamekona, Jason Martin, Yoel; (back row) Trina Piretti (assistant), Jesse Levey, Eric Guilleminault, Brendan Furey, and Coach John Batista.

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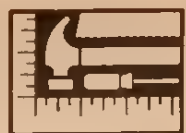
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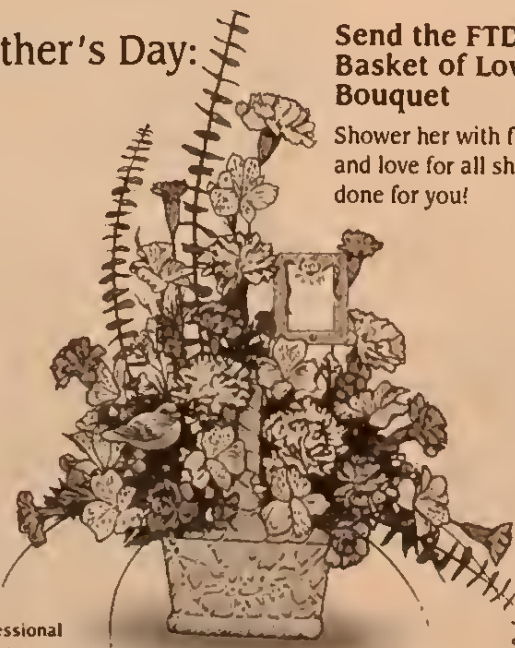
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## A Particularly Disturbing Robbery

By Officer Lois Perillo

There were four street robberies and two commercial robberies reported within my Noe Valley beat in March. Two of the street robberies, one of which ended with the arrest of a 13-year-old boy, involved teens accosting teens.

However, the most potentially dangerous incident was one in which two men in their 20s robbed six people at gunpoint as they walked together on the 300 block of Jersey Street.

On March 5 at about 10 p.m., as three women and three men walked east on Jersey toward Noe Street, they saw two men standing on the southwest corner, opposite from their location. The two men crossed to the north side and while one stood lookout at the corner, the other pointed a semi-automatic pistol at the victims and demanded their wallets. They complied, and the suspects fled south on Noe Street.

Although 10 police units responded to the area within three minutes of the 911 dispatcher's receiving the call, searched the area by car and foot, and held two field shows of potential suspects, the robbery suspects were still at large in mid-April.

A gun was also used in the commercial robberies, but the police have arrested a suspect in the case. The Radio Shack on 24th Street was robbed twice during a two-day period, apparently by the same person who was caught several weeks later during a Castro District robbery. The suspect has been charged with three counts of robbery.

The first Radio Shack robbery occurred March 3 at 7:30 p.m., while the second took place a day later and a half an hour earlier. In both instances, the robber brandished a gun and demanded money.

The workers remained calm and provided detailed descriptions to police, which assisted in the eventual identification of the suspect. Radio Shack's procedures have since been adjusted to avoid a recurrence; a minimum of two employees are always present and a security surveillance and alarm system is in place.

In another incident, on March 2 at 6:45 a.m., a 20-year-old man was waiting for the bus at 26th and Castro streets when a black jeep stopped and two men exited the vehicle. One man put the targeted man in a choke hold and demanded money, while the other threatened him with a wine bottle. The suspects then threw the man to the ground and stripped him of his bag and leather jacket, injuring his arm in the process. They then fled in the jeep.

### Mean Teens on 24th Street

In the first of the two incidents involving teens, the owner of Little Italy, J.P. Gillen, and Ronald Orge foiled a mugging of a 12-year-old boy by a 13-year-old boy by capturing the fleeing suspect and holding him for the police.

On March 4 at 3 p.m., as the younger

## POLICE BEAT

boy walked east on 24th from Diamond Street, he was stopped by the older boy, who asked whether he had a Fast Pass. Next the older boy allegedly hit him on the side of the head and tried to steal his day pack. The suspect then stole some change from the younger boy's jacket and ran east on 24th toward Castro, where he was stopped by Gillen and Orge.

One of Mission Station's school car officers, Dave Elliot, handled the initial report and the young man's booking at the Youth Guidance Center for robbery. Officer Elliot was subpoenaed to court in April and said the suspect pled guilty.

In the other incident, two 13-year-old girls were apparently followed up 24th Street by three 14-year-olds (two girls and a boy) at 8 p.m. on March 28, after they got off the bus at 24th and Church. As they approached Douglass Street, one of the older girls allegedly pushed one of the younger girls to the ground, saying, "I'm sorry. Give me your money."

When the targeted girl said she didn't have any money, the suspect ordered that she empty her pockets. She complied, and the suspect stole \$6 and took the younger girl's rings as well.

Meanwhile, as the boy watched, the other 14-year-old girl stole rings from the other younger girl. The suspects then walked east on 24th Street.

The younger teens reported the incident to Officer Mike Gallegos the next day, and told him that they sustained no injuries.

### Tip-Jar Thief Quite a Handful

A 43-year-old man who attempted to steal a tip jar from a pizza parlor—then illegally entered a beer truck, grabbed a pedestrian without warning, and assaulted the responding officer and citizen who came to his aid—was arrested and charged with attempted theft, two counts of battery, and resisting arrest.

On March 4 at 2:30 p.m., Officer Steve Mulkeen responded to Neil Meyer's report of a man repeatedly trying to steal property on the 4000 block of 24th Street. Meyer, manager of Cybelle's Pizza, thwarted the man's attempt to take his tip jar, but after he saw him harass others, he called the police.

Meyer and Laurence Kaplan directed Officer Mulkeen to the suspect at 24th and Castro. But when the officer approached, the suspect said, "Oh, no!" and punched him in the face. As Officer Mulkeen struggled with him, his police radio microphone was knocked away.

Mulkeen finally handcuffed the suspect with the help of Meyer and Kaplan, who had also received blows from the man during the struggle. The suspect is scheduled to appear in Municipal Court on May 3.

### How to Frustrate Burglars

One residential, one garage, and two commercial burglaries were reported within my area of Noe Valley in March.

The residential burglary occurred while the home was vacant for an extended period. If you are planning a vacation, be sure to notify your neighbors of your leaving, employ light timers, consider mail overflow, and arrange for a trusted person to visit your home during your absence.

The garage break-in reportedly happened in the early morning hours of a Saturday, while the occupants were "sleeping in."

My advice for garage owners is to check and double-check your locks. Replace those outdated wire-assisted locks. Disconnect electric garage opener key grids that are accessible to the outside. Secure all other garage entries, especially those walk-through doors with flimsy locks, glass panes, and thin wood.

If you must store your bicycle in the garage—LOCK IT! Also make sure you have recorded the serial number of all your serialized items and marked them with your driver's license or i.d. number.

The laundromat at 22nd and Noe streets was targeted in an unusual burglary on Friday night, March 11. When the worker arrived to open the business the next morning, he found the outside door locked and the inside door forced open. Nothing appeared to have been stolen, and the only damage was to the office door.

In a separate incident, a 24th Street store that was secured by a cylinder lock installed into a metal-frame glass door was burglarized when the thief removed the lock from the outside, effectively defeating the only locking mechanism.

Although the store's loss was only \$18 in quarters, the thief's apparent easy entry illustrated a weakness in some merchants' choice of door locks, which may be remedied by installing a metal panel over the lock on the outer door. I've spoken with most businesses that employ this lock and recommended upgrading.

### Panhandler Pushes Pedestrian Too Far

A 27-year-old man who was panhandling was cited for battery after he pushed a man who declined to give him money.

On March 28 at 7:30 p.m., a 19-year-old man passed a panhandler who was sitting on the public bench fronting the lot at 4051 24th St. The panhandler asked for a quarter. The man said he had no money and the panhandler made an indiscernible comment.

When the man responded, "What?" the panhandler called him a punk, twice challenged him to box, and then pushed him. As the targeted man walked away, the suspect followed until he saw a police vehicle.

The suspect changed direction, and the targeted man told officers Carol Scatena and Tim Louie of the incident and signed a complaint. The officers arrested the suspect and took him to Mission Station, where they confirmed his identity and issued him a citation to appear in court on May 10.

### Spy Invisible to Neighbors

Were you among the Hoffman and Elizabeth street residents who witnessed a 49-year-old man running up and down their blocks, shouting accusations and trying doorknobs on March 5 at 4:15 p.m.?

Officer Michael Paganini responded and found the man trespassing on private property while continually yelling "There he is!" and motioning to a nonexistent person, who he insisted was spying on him. Upon determining that the man was gravely disabled and a danger to himself, Officer Paganini took him to Psychiatric Emergency Services at San Francisco General Hospital, where he was detained, pending evaluation.

### The SFPD Needs You!

News Flash: The San Francisco Police Department is currently accepting applications for entry-level police officers, who if hired will receive a starting salary of \$43,957 a year.

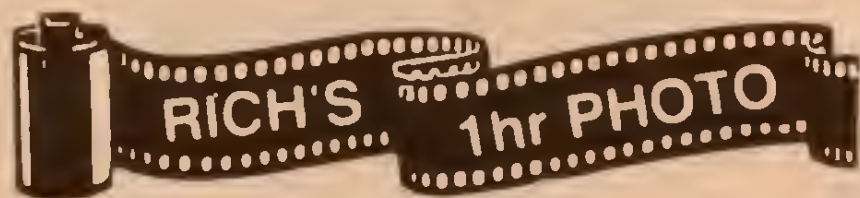
To qualify, an applicant must be a San Francisco resident, be at least 20 years old (there's no upper age limit), have a high school diploma or G.E.D., be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, have a California driver's license, and have no felony convictions.

Applications will be taken from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 21, at the SFPD Police Academy, 350 Amber Drive. (Don't forget to bring a photo i.d. and proof of residency.) Questions? Call 553-1999.

That's the scoop. Until next time, be safe and I'll see you on patrol. ☐



Officer Lois Perillo is a member of the San Francisco Police Department's community police officer program. Her beat centers on 24th Street and extends from 21st and Grand View to Army and Valencia streets. She can be reached at Mission Station at 647-2767.



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# Meet a Barber, Blacksmith, Buggy Maker, Horn Player, Horseman and History Buff

By Kevin McGahan

Art Schembri, a 32-year Noe Valley resident, points to one of the dozens of framed photos on his walls and says, "This is a picture of Post Street in 1905. It doesn't look anything like this anymore though, because most of these buildings went down in the 1906 earthquake."

It's uncanny how Schembri, 75, knows the dates and locations of every single photograph in his collection. He's an oral historian of the first order, and a visit to his house is like an excursion to a museum.

The walls are virtually covered with black and white photographs of San Francisco, dating from the late 1800s through the early 1950s, as well as with Schembri's own paintings, and he has a story to relate for each and every one of them.



At the North Coast Draft Horse and Mule Club meet in Geyserville last month, Art Schembri (right) and longtime friend Hoppy Hopkins rode in a buggy that Schembri restored.  
PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

Many of his tales stem from Schembri's various incarnations as a blacksmith, a barber, a painter, a horseman, and a trombone player in a big band. He recalls them all with a slight smile and a hint of pride in eyes that sparkle like a leprechaun's, confirming his Irish heritage.

Schembri also spent three years in the Marines during World War II. He enlisted on Jan. 17, 1940, and fought in three major battles in the Pacific, including the battle at Guadalcanal.

Although relatively small in stature, Schembri exudes an energy that makes him seem considerably larger than his 5-foot-7-inch frame. He's always working on a project that keeps him busy, whether building a new staircase or shoring up the foundation of his house on 25th Street.

One look at his hands tells you that he has worked with them extensively. The skin is rough, and his fingers are bent and twisted at odd angles—but when he uses them for work, they are still supple and sure.

Schembri started out working in the blacksmith trade under the tutelage of his grandfather in the 1930s. Today he still builds horse carts and carriages, a hobby he pursues in the back of his garage using some of his grandfather's 100-year-old tools.

In 1981 he made a replica of a 1930s delivery wagon for Sunset Scavenger, in honor of the sanitation company's 100th anniversary. The company is currently planning to open a museum, and Schembri's carriage will be one of the items on display. A number of his carriages have also been used in Hollywood films, including the Cary Grant-Irene Dunn classic *I Remember Mama*.

But shortly after Schembri embarked on his blacksmithing career, automobiles began replacing horses, and his grandfather advised him to pick a different vocation. So Schembri opted to pursue his interest in cutting hair. After practicing on family, friends, neighbors, and school classmates in junior high, he took \$700 of his savings and enrolled in barber college.

In 1962 he bought a building at the corner of Church and 25th streets. He lived upstairs and established his own barber shop, Art's Barber Shop, downstairs.

He says he particularly enjoyed cutting the long locks of young hippie guys in the '60s and '70s. "They would ask how much," he remembers, "and when I would say \$5, they would jump right in the chair. I enjoyed cutting it off and making them look nice, making them look like fellas again."

Nine years ago, Schembri retired from the barber business after 55 years. But he still does trims for a few close friends, and keeps a barber chair in the middle of his kitchen. (The barber shop was taken over by Roger Camira, who ran it until November of last year, when Jerry and Stephanie Holstein, formerly of Mike's Barber Shop at Church and 24th, took the reins.)

Retirement allowed Schembri to dive into another passion: horses. He's a member of the North Coast Draft Horse and Mule Club, an 18-member organization based in the Sonoma/Napa wine country. Its members represent a rare breed of farmer—they have never used tractors and never will. Instead, they rely on their trusty work horses.

Schembri travels up north to Geyserville and Petaluma on most weekends, to work with his two Percheron horses, Ginger and Lady, and to visit with other club members. He also participates in various draft horse competitions, and last month won a blue ribbon in an obstacle course race.

He takes pride in noting that the club came to the aid of the Bay Area in a big way during the cleanup following the Oakland Hills fire in 1991. The club's horses were used to drag out the burnt trees and debris from terrain that was too precarious for tractors to negotiate.

Schembri's love of horses is evident throughout his home. He has collections of old bridles, bits, and horseshoes that show their evolution in design. Paintings and photos of fire horses, field horses, and horses pulling delivery wagons dominate the walls.

Speaking of delivery wagons, when Schembri was 12 years old he used to deliver firewood (driftwood collected from Hunters Point) by horse carriage. He speaks fondly of his Noe Valley route.

"People here were real good," he recalls. "They didn't try to bargain me down. It was 25 cents a bundle, and they would pay it without any funny business."

Continued Next Page



Art Schembri's home on 25th Street is filled with Old West memorabilia, including this photo of his father, William (in center, on gray horse), taken at the 1913 Salinas Rodeo Parade. William Schembri was a hobbyist calf-roper—note the sheepskin chaps—who kept his horse in "Butchertown," the Bay View District of San Francisco.

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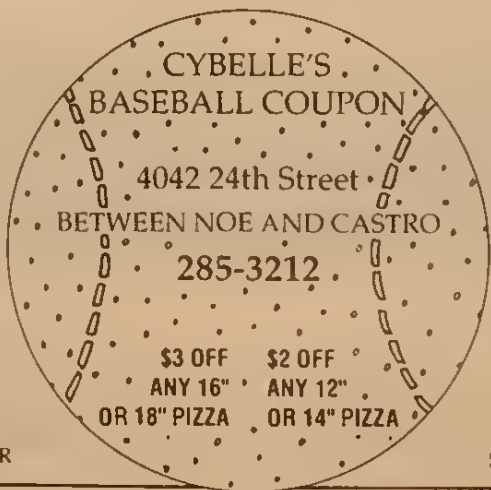
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Back in 1939, Art Schembri was resident trombonist (bottom left) for the Maltese Band, which played at Neptune Beach in Alameda for \$3 on Sunday afternoons. Schembri says he still has the trombone and wants to play again, as soon as he removes a dent.

## Art Schembri

*Continued from Previous Page*

In other neighborhoods, people were always trying to get me down to 15 cents, or telling me that they would pay me later."

Schembri is chock-full of stories. His knowledge of local lore goes back to even before his time, thanks to his father and grandfather, who passed their stories on to him. He now happily passes them on to friends and neighbors.

One of his favorite anecdotes, which he got from his grandfather, stemmed from the 1906 Earthquake and Fire. It's a tale that is probably familiar to many Noe Valley residents, but it was the first time this reporter had heard it.

As Schembri tells it, nearly all of the

fire hydrants in the city had gone dry as firemen battled the huge blaze started by the earthquake. The fire was spreading toward Noe Valley and the outer Mission, and things were looking bleak.

A few young children, however, opened a hydrant at 20th and Church streets and discovered that it was fully operable. Fire trucks hooked up to this hydrant and were able to keep the fire from spreading through the neighborhood.

This particular hydrant, still standing on the southwest corner of Dolores Park, is painted gold every April 18 to commemorate the role it played in saving the Mission.

Yes, you can learn a lot from listening to Art Schembri.

"If you want to teach a young horse," he says, "you get an old horse to do it. An old horse will teach the young horse what he knows." □



Art Schembri not only keeps a 1918 Dodge and a half a dozen restored carriages in his Noe Valley stable, but he has converted part of his garage to a blacksmith's forge, where he can build the carts pulled by his draft horses, Lady and Ginger. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

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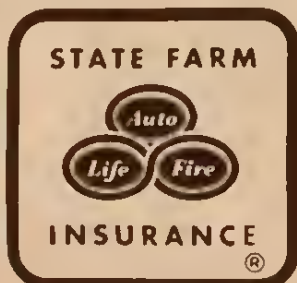
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# New Cop on The Block

By Steve Sheret

If you haven't introduced yourself yet, the new police officer walking the beat in the southern end of Noe Valley, chatting with shop owners and keeping an eye peeled for crime in its infancy, is Ingleside Station's Shawn Wallace.

Officer Wallace has been pounding the pavement in what's called "outer" or "upper" Noe Valley—roughly the area between Church and Castro streets and 30th and Army streets—since mid-February. So far, he's been spending his time attending neighborhood association meetings and getting to know the merchants and residents on his turf.

He says he likes community policing because it offers a change of pace from being in a cruiser and responding to emergencies all day.

"This sort of police work gives me the freedom to fight crime pro-actively," he says. "I mean, we have a better chance working with the people of this community to improve a suspicious situation before it becomes a problem."

The residents of Noe Valley serviced by the Ingleside Police District (those who live south of Army Street and west of Mission Street) may remember Wallace's predecessors, Jean Etcheveste and Steve Ratto, both beat officers in Ingleside's CPOP program.

CPop (Community Police On Patrol) was launched at the Mission Police Station in October of 1989 in an effort to involve the community in dealing with potential crime, instead of relying solely on the police to rush in whenever a problem arose. It was modeled after a program that has achieved wide success in New York City.

In the past couple of years, the program has been extended to all San Fran-



**Perks Up:** Last year the City of San Francisco issued a record number of these special parking permits for artists. PHOTO BY PAMELA GERARD

cisco police districts and redubbed CPAPS (Community Policing And Problem Solving). (Most officers are less than thrilled with the acronym, however, and prefer to call it COPPS.)

Tom Feledy, the officer in charge of Ingleside's CPAPS program, says the program enables beat officers to take the initiative in preventing crime and improving safety in his or her beat.

"We need to collaborate with the public in order to reduce crime, disorder, fear, and all those negative factors lessening the quality of life," Feledy says.

"We're trying to get every officer to view each citizen as a customer of our services whose needs must be taken into account." Public support is critical to the

department's enforcement efforts, he added.

Sue Bowie, as a co-chair of the residents' group Upper Noe Neighbors, not only organizes tree plantings and coordinates emergency earthquake response, she also makes a point of getting the weekly crime report for her neighborhood and reading it at the association's meetings.

The residents' most common complaint is graffiti, she says, and one of the ways she contributes to the idea of community policing is by scrubbing or painting out the marks herself.

"The police are always there, and that's great. But we need to do a little bit ourselves," she says. "Officer Wallace has been to a couple of our meetings, and he

listens very well to our concerns. I'm sure he'll do a good job.

"I know it's not like patrolling the projects or Geneva Towers, but people in our neighborhood like to see the police around," Bowie adds. "Police presence is a great deterrent."

In her 17 years on Valley Street, Vicki Rosen, also a co-chair of Upper Noe Neighbors, says the only serious, recurrent crime she sees is car break-ins.

"Our neighborhood appreciates Ingleside Station putting someone on the beat who really appears to care about what's going on here," Rosen says. "Shawn can even persuade dog owners to keep their pets quiet."

Tom Maravilla, co-owner of the Mikey-Tom Market and a member of the Outer Noe Valley Merchants Association, also feels that the new program and the efforts of Officer Wallace have made an impact.

"I've met with Shawn many times, and I always see other officers on patrol," Maravilla says. "The only big thing we have to deal with regularly is graffiti, and having the police around discourages kids from doing it. They've won half the battle just being there."

Relatively speaking, outer Noe Valley is in good shape, he says.

"Crime is a lot worse where I live," he notes, referring to his home neighborhood at 21st and Valencia streets. "Here on Church Street it's really not bad at all. We get kids hanging around Church and 29th, but they're pretty good for kids these days." □

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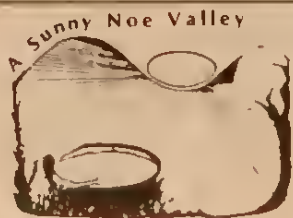
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By Monica Levin

This month's Storetrek introduces a pie shop and an antique store—both of which are squeezed into rather narrow storefronts—and a beauty salon whose staff is growing like Rapunzel's locks.

#### Tom Peasant Pies 4108 24th St. 642-1316

Tom Thumb has arrived in Noe Valley. The diminutive storybook character is featured on the logo of Tom Peasant Pies, a tiny takeout on 24th Street a few doors up from Castro. Tom's imprint also can be seen on the shop's specialty—single-serving seafood and vegetable pastries handmade by co-owner/chef Gerard Long from 100-year-old Mediterranean recipes.

Born in Vietnam but raised in France, Long ran three "Tom" shops in Paris before moving to San Jose in 1986, where he managed a French restaurant. There he met future partner Ali Keshavarz, who is originally from Iran. The two relocated to Noe Valley last year, because of its appeal as "a small village with personality—not sterile like a mall," Long says.

After sprucing up the Knish Konnection's former storefront with rebuilt counters and fresh paint, the pair opened for business in mid-January. Three months later, customers are gobbling upwards of 200 of their small (4-inch) sweet and savory pies per day.

While Long rolls out dough and prepares fillings in the back, Keshavarz, wearing a white coat and chef's hat, greets customers and takes orders up front. Though there's seating for 10 at the



Ali Keshavarz (left) and Gerard Long bake close to a dozen varieties of vegetable, seafood, and fruit pies at their small shop on 24th Street. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

counter, Long points out, 70 percent of the shop's business is to go.

The menu currently includes three fish (calamari, shrimp, and clam) and five vegetarian pies (ratatouille, spinach, leek and red bell pepper, onion and Swiss, and mushroom, zucchini, and basil). Recently added to the mix—as a nod to the breakfast crowd—are three fruit pies: apple-cinnamon, strawberry-kiwi, and rhubarb-strawberry. The pies sell for \$2.25 apiece. Larger, 8-inch versions are available by special order.

Chef Long caters to his health-conscious Noe Valley customers by using only the

## STORETREK



Eileen Claytor, Diana Calderon, Rubie Amramov, Eddie Nathan, and Cindy Piva have helped to create a full-service beauty salon at Mylene's on Castro Street. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

purest olive oil and all-natural ingredients in his recipes. "The pies are fresh and nutritious," he says, noting that they are baked for 18 minutes at the shop, but require an additional 3 minutes in the oven before serving on-site or at home.

Tom Peasant Pies is open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

#### Mylene's Hair Salon 1401 Castro St. 648-5161

Despite what the name says, Mylene's Hair Salon at the corner of Castro and Jersey is more than just a place to get a haircut. Over the past seven months, owner Mylene (who goes by first name only) has expanded the shop's services and doubled the number of workers from three to six.

In addition to haircuts, perms, and colorings, the salon now offers facials, waxing, makeup, manicures, pedicures, and eyelash and eyebrow tinting. Mylene notes that she has had entire wedding parties book appointments, then rotate from one station to another to be fine-tuned from head to toe.

Mylene's associates are all "stars" in their profession, she maintains, and together they share over 100 years of experience. She herself accounts for 26, having started as a hairstylist at 1. Magnin in 1968 before opening the first Mylene's in 1969 on 24th Street. She moved to this larger space in 1980.

"I've styled the hair of three generations of families," she says. "Mothers and their children became the backbone of my business. Eventually, the grandchildren continued the tradition."

Fellow hairstylist Eddie Nathan is also a veteran, having accumulated 21 years in the trade before coming to Mylene's in 1991. He says he enjoys collaborating with his clients on creating a "total look"—taking into account not only their hair, but their personality, clothing, and lifestyle.

Hairstylists Eileen Claytor and Rubie

Amramov recently moved to Mylene's from 24th Street's Shear Delight, where they snipped alongside one another for eight years. A new mother, Claytor has great rapport with children (her youngest client is a year old). Amramov takes pride in performing "no-fuss, wash-and-wear hairstyling."

Aesthetician Diana Calderon, the shop's makeup and skin care specialist, has been at Mylene's since 1987. She performs all-natural treatments, and is an expert in administering the new alpha hydroxy acids (AHA) facial that peels off the surface of the skin.

Cindy Piva, who specializes in pedicures and natural or acrylic manicures, also joined the group's extended family in 1987. She moved over to Shear Delight before taking a maternity leave in 1989, then worked out of her home before returning to Mylene's last year.

Mylene's customers report that because the staff is so chummy, there's lots of clever quipping, not to mention expert clipping, at the salon. Passersby often peer in the window to see what's causing the frequent bursts of laughter.

Despite the levity, Mylene takes pains to keep her prices down, in consideration of her many working-class and retired clients. Fees range from \$12 for a wash-and-set to \$65 for a perm. A manicure costs \$12, a pedicure is \$20, and a facial runs \$49.50.

The salon is open seven days a week (hours vary by operator), and walk-ins are welcome. Call 648-5161 to make an appointment.

#### Misha's Interiors 1104 Sanchez St. 648-3307

After traveling to the United States frequently for business from his native Russia, Mikhail Koutouzov knew he would settle in San Francisco.

"It was the most comfortable, convenient, beautiful, spiritual European city of them all," he says. He left St. Petersburg

four years ago and settled into a house in the Sunset District, learning English only after he arrived.

His love of antiques—he has been collecting them since age 13—and an education in furniture and upholstery restoration led Koutouzov to open his own shop last November. He specializes in wood furniture, sculptures, miniatures, and upholstery, and also does custom work, interior design, and estate liquidation.

Misha's Interiors, a narrow alcove in the same building that houses the Pergamino coffee shop at Sanchez and 24th streets, is crammed to the rafters with Old World merchandise and charm. Classical music plays in the background, and walls are covered with mirrors and art, including the work of several contemporary Russian artists Koutouzov championed back home. The floor is also filled, which makes careful maneuvering essential when browsing.

Last month the one-of-a-kind inventory included men's and women's gold and silver rings (some with precious gems), cuff links, earrings, watches and fobs, lamps with tasseled shades, a dining room set, night stands, an English burlwood linen cabinet, a finely detailed walnut Victorian hutch, metal and wood figurines, beer steins, a crystal bell, various pieces of china, stained-glass panels, bookends, pitchers, vases, a coat rack, silver cigarette cases, vintage cameras, needlepoint, framed photographs, and fine art prints.

Prices range from \$2 for a candleholder to \$1,200 for a 6½-foot-long Bulstrode oak desk with mirror, circa 1870, from Cambridge, England.

Koutouzov is always scouting out treasures,



Mikhail Koutouzov has amassed an eclectic inventory at his antique shop on Sanchez near 24th. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

which he continually adds to the old favorites he brings from home. He acquires merchandise from auctions, estate sales, dealers, and other sellers, and takes care to learn each item's history and to share his knowledge with his customers. He is also willing to search for specific items.

"Business is good," Koutouzov smiles. "I keep prices reasonable, and people appreciate that I can do restoration." He picked Noe Valley for its friendly, small-town atmosphere, he says, and hopes to move here soon.

Misha's Interiors is open Wednesday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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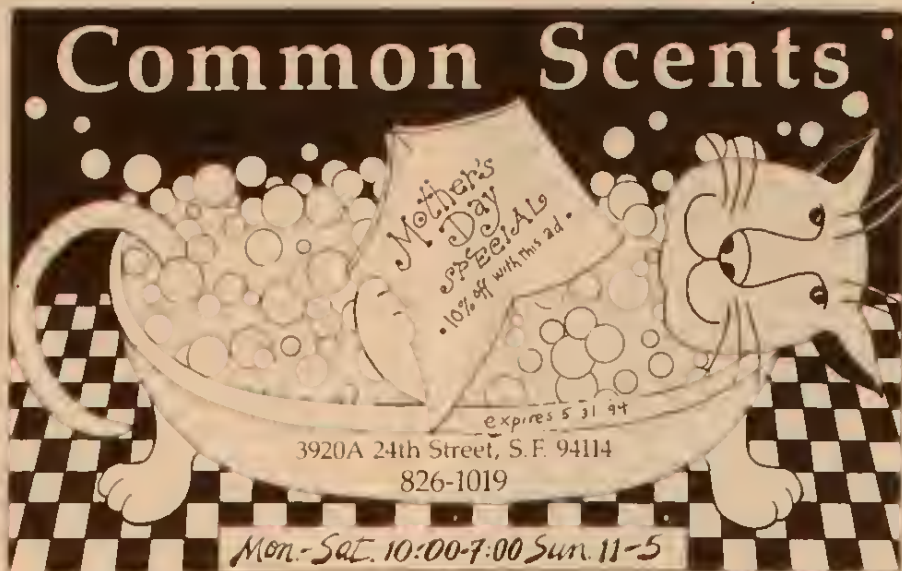
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Curb Painting.....554-2323  
DPW (24-hour emergency).....695-2020  
Graffiti Removal.....695-2017  
Hazardous Spills (on street).....861-8020  
Hazardous Waste Hotline.....554-4333  
Illegal Parking.....553-1200  
Noise (construction related).....558-6060  
Noise (nuisance—police).....563-1012  
Parking Meters (out of order).....550-2739  
Parking Permits (residential).....554-5000  
San Francisco Beautiful.....421-2608  
San Francisco SAFE.....553-1984  
Street Cleaning (to remove illegally dumped items or garbage).....695-2017  
Streetlights (out of order).....554-0730  
Street Signs.....554-9870  
Towed Cars (to retrieve).....553-1235  
Traffic Signals (out of order).....550-2736  
Water Dept. (street breaks).....550-4911

### HEALTH

Animal Care and Control.....554-6364  
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Community Boards.....863-6100

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Elder Abuse Hotline.....557-5230  
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Poison Control Center.....1-800-523-2222  
Police/Fire Emergency.....911  
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Pacific Bell.....611  
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## The Dead Sea Scrolls and Me

Early this year the de Young Museum presented a series of lectures to prepare docents to conduct tours of its current exhibit, "The Mystery of the Dead Sea Scrolls." Although I attended the lectures, I didn't expect to participate as a docent, because any knowledge of the Bible that I had gathered during my childhood had long slipped away.

After all, it has been 63 years since I took the streetcar to the corner of 15th and Dolores streets, where the Swedish Lutheran Ebenezer Church was then located, and where classes and confirmations were given. (Yes, that is the old building that burned down a year or so ago.)



A year after me, my younger brother Ward was supposed to follow in my footsteps, but instead of going for instruction he played hooky, spending his carfare on candy until Pastor Lundstrom informed our parents of his absence. It took one evening of exasperated scolding, then two weeks of accelerated tutoring by the merciful pastor, but Ward was finally confirmed with his class . . . by the skin of his teeth.

Thenceforth, he and I rejoiced in the present, leaving the study of the scriptures to the theologians.

When I had children of my own, I did not herd them down the same path that my brothers and I had taken. Instead, the Sabbath found us visiting museums or romping in the sunshine at the beach.

Eventually, however, guilt impelled me to speak to my children of never having shown them the inside of a house

of worship. Jan, our 4-year-old son, retorted indignantly, "You did too! Don't you remember how we went to church when Mrs. Kinsey died?"

So we did!

When Eric, our youngest, was 2, I attempted to explain the meaning of Christmas, telling the story and showing him a little nativity scene. But he claimed the baby Jesus doll for his own and carried it wherever he went.

One day I rushed down to 24th Street to do some last-minute shopping with little Eric in the stroller. In the busy Glen Five and Ten, he accidentally dropped his baby. To alert me, he let out a howl of desperation: "Jesus! Jesus!"

The other shoppers turned their heads to glare disapprovingly. Mother and child left the store hurriedly.

Then when Eric was 5 and Easter was upon us, I tried to explain that the day was not just about candy and bunnies, but about the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.

Eric wasn't ready for that. He looked at me in disbelief and declared, "You told me not to believe in ghosts!" I was forced to agree with him, and vowed never to speak upon holy themes again.

However, this spring, due to the many requests for tours, the de Young called up most of its docents for duty, including me (gulp). I had to cram for two weeks before I felt qualified to give a tour, but here I am—35 years after being silenced by my children—attempting to talk about one of the most important religious artifacts of the 20th century.

For those like me who need their memory refreshed, the Dead Sea Scrolls are a collection of Hebrew and Aramaic liturgical writings, including many books of the Old Testament, which had been secreted away in caves on the shores of the Dead Sea, the salt

## FLORENCE'S FAMILY ALBUM

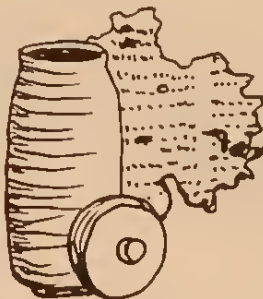
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lake that now separates Israel and Jordan. The documents date from 200 B.C. to 70 A.D.

The story of their discovery is a tantalizing one. In 1946 a young Bedouin shepherd who was searching for a stray animal just by chance tossed a stone into a slit in a cliff and heard the sound of breaking pottery. Although it was illegal to do so, he and two companions entered what proved to be a cave and removed seven rolls of crumbling leather parchment, plus two of the jars they were stored in.

Over the next 10 years, Bedouins and archaeologists alike scoured the cliffs in search of more treasure. They found 10 more caves that yielded two nearly-complete scrolls, and tens of thousands of fragments.

In the decades that followed, scholars have concluded that the Dead Sea scribes were members of a pious sect of celibate monks, who hid their sacred manuscripts in caves for safekeeping from the Roman legions.



The conservation and restoration of these fragile documents has been an enormous undertaking, however. There were no how-to books on the care of 2,000-year-old parchments, and reconstruction was like trying to put together

a huge jigsaw puzzle, with 90 percent of the pieces missing.

Eight specialists were appointed in the early 1950s to begin this slow, tedious process, which eventually stretched over 40 years. It wasn't until three years ago that certain fragments of the scrolls were released for public viewing. The majority of the original scrolls now reside in a specially-built museum in Jerusalem called the Shrine of the Book.



"The Pierced Messiah Scroll"

On loan to the de Young Museum for this exhibit are 12 original documents from the Dead Sea caves, including sections of *Leviticus*, the third of the five books of Moses, and *Psalms*, a collection of hymns and songs (not by King David, although he's mentioned).

The exhibit also features a fragment from the most mysterious of all the scrolls, the *War Rule*, which mentions an unnamed messiah from the branch of David, a judgment, and a killing. This document has been called "The Pierced Messiah" by some factions, but is completely discounted by others. Was this Jesus? We may never know for sure.

Well, now that you've had a taste of my docent speech, you will have to join the multitudes visiting the de Young. The exhibit, which continues until May 29, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday, and on Wednesday evenings until 8:45 p.m. (when admission is half-price).

Unless I am Dead wrong, you will absolutely loveth the Seaing. And I'm sure my brother Ward would have too. Amen. □



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# MORE Mouths to Feed

By Jim Christie

## Zoe Erica Anderson-Colson

A staff nurse at California Pacific Medical Center was taken aback when "Team Colson" rolled in one spring morning last year. The nurse was used to greeting a nervous husband and wife, but Susan Colson's contingent included her partner and companion Maureen Anderson, her midwife, and three other close friends. It was finally time to check into the hospital after three long nights in labor.

At 5:56 p.m. on April 8, 1993, the group welcomed Zoe Erica Anderson-Colson into the world. She tipped the scales at 8 pounds, 3 ounces, and has been growing by leaps and bounds ever since.

"She just celebrated her first birthday and must weigh 25 pounds by now," says Colson. "Trying to keep her in clothes that fit is almost impossible."

"She seems to grow out of them every one or two months," adds Anderson.

Zoe has dark brown eyes and hair, and looks like her mother even though Colson has blond hair and blue eyes. Zoe also has what Anderson calls "major dimple action." Surprisingly sturdy and solid for her age, she's already walking and loves to greet people, dogs, cats, and anything else that moves. She also favors books with pictures of babies, and recently discovered the joy of swings.

Both Colson and Anderson wanted to experience childbirth, so Colson, 45, took her turn first. Anderson, 33, laughs and says she has the luxury to "procrastinate."

The two women met five years ago through mutual friends. Due to her parents' extensive social network, Zoe has a wonderful relationship with several adults, including two men friends who often ba-

bysit. Her middle name, says Colson, was chosen in memory of a close friend named Eric who died from AIDS.

Colson, an organizational consultant who assists non-profit community groups, loves the intimate connection she feels to Zoe. Even so, she realizes she sometimes has to "set some limits" for her rambunctious, often uninhibited daughter, but views this as a challenge rather than a chore.

In her more footloose and fancy-free days, Colson was the bass guitarist for a jazz group, the Blazing Redheads. Perhaps her musical abilities have rubbed off on Zoe, who is a budding singer, as well as an avid fan of Joan Armatrading and Sweet Honey and the Rock.

"Sometimes," says Colson, "Zoe will just look over at us and start singing. She goes 'la la la... la la la.' It's absolutely wonderful."

Anderson, who is currently pursuing a "second-parent adoption" of Zoe, works for the public relations firm of Beagle, Abernathy & Mitchell. She says she is less inclined to work until 7 p.m. these days, now that Zoe is a part of her life.

One favorite family pastime is taking Zoe on hikes around the neighborhood. They can walk from their house on 29th Street near Castro to some of their favorite spots: the Harry Street stairs, Goat Hill, and for some relief, Laidley Street ("It's flat!").

Although Colson no longer has luxurious stretches of time to relax and take it easy, she says she wouldn't trade her circumstances for anything.

And what pearls of wisdom does she have for any prospective parents out there? "Get a lot of sleep!" she laughs, "because you might not get much once your baby is born." □



Year-old Zoe Erica Anderson-Colson practices her "dimple action" with her two moms, Susan Colson and Maureen Anderson. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

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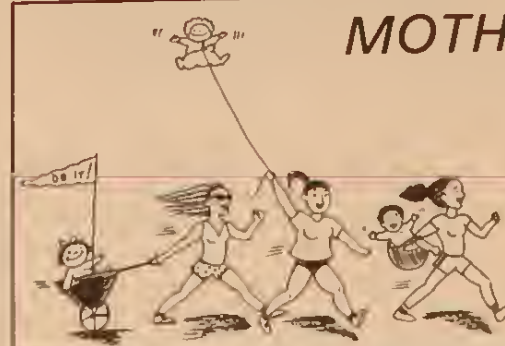
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# • MORE Mouths to Feed •

By Jim Christie

## Dylan Gray Thompson

When Dylan Gray Thompson entered the world at 2:30 a.m. on Dec. 12, 1991, chances are he had already absorbed some business acumen.

His mother, Lisa Thompson, was in the middle of negotiations to acquire a storefront on 24th Street when she was seven months' pregnant with Dylan. She opened her children's clothing store, Little Bean Sprouts, in early 1992, when Dylan was himself a mere sprout.

"Dylan was born at California Pacific Medical Center. He weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces, and he was 21 inches long," says Lisa, who remembers every statistic and detail. "I had a fairly easy time. I went into the hospital at 9 p.m. and was in active labor for only three hours. Just 5½ hours after checking in, I gave birth."

Lisa met Dylan's father-to-be, David Thompson, when the two were university students at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va. After graduating in 1985, since neither of them had ever crossed the Mississippi, they decided to "head west."

David, 31, now works as an associate with the appropriately named architectural firm of House & House. Lisa worked for architectural firms for 10 years, and accumulated a wealth of marketing, management, and design experience. Now 30, she puts those skills to good use running Little Bean Sprouts. The store has done so well, in fact, that she's opening another in Ghirardelli Square on May 28.

When the Thompsons got married eight years ago, they knew they wanted children, but saw no need to rush. Their only regret, however, is that Lisa's mother passed away before Dylan was born. His

middle name, Gray, was his grandmother's maiden name.

Dylan gets his blond hair and brown eyes from David, and from Lisa he inherited one of his most distinctive traits: "The ends of his eyebrows turn up when he cries, just like mine when I cry," says Mom.

This trait has been more evident lately, she adds, since Dylan has moved into a bit of "terrible 2's" behavior.

"His emotions seem to run the gamut from one extreme to the other, even more so than his friends—sort of like my wife's," jokes David.

Dylan recently started attending Glen Park Preschool, but he spent much of his first two years helping Lisa out at Little Bean Sprouts.

These days he puts in lots of weekend time with Dad, doing the male bonding routine. He especially likes sports, and loves to play with balls and toy trucks. David says they have a riot together, but the best part, he adds, is his son's unquestioning love and devotion.

Having a child has meant that he and Lisa have had to postpone some of their home remodeling projects—that is, they now have an extended "five-year plan" for fixing up their house on Vicksburg Street.

But the couple doesn't mind. Just hearing Dylan's laughter, they say, or watching him take your face in his hands to say, "I love you," more than makes up for the sacrifice.

Nevertheless, Lisa offers a word of advice to those considering parenthood: "Just don't start a business or remodel your house at the same time!" □



Lisa and David Thompson have a little bean sprout, Dylan Gray Thompson, who turned 2 this past December. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

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### Children's Fiction

• Author Bruce McMillan takes a look at ordinary classroom objects from an unusual perspective in *Mouse Views: What the Class Pet Saw*. (Ages 3-5.)

• A sister and brother enjoy Stow Lake and their own "tortoise and hare" race in *Stella and Roy*, by local author-illustrator Ashley Wolff. (Ages 3-5.)

• Rex is very anxious about how the new baby will affect her life, but the new soccer ball from Pinky helps bring things back to normal in *Pinky and Rex and the New Baby*, by James Howe. (Ages 6-8.)

• Although very frightened, 12-year-old Phillip bravely tends his family's business on April 18, 1906, in *Earthquake! A Story of Old San Francisco*, by Kathleen V. Kudlinski. (Ages 8-11.)

• During the time baby Sophie lives with them, Larkin and her family are finally able to talk about and mourn the death of Larkin's baby brother in *Baby*, by Patricia MacLachlan. (Ages 11 and up.)

### Children's Non-Fiction

• Even without previous experience, you can make wonderful creations in a variety of designs with the help of Camilla Gryski's how-to book *Friendship Bracelets*. (Ages 8 and up.)

• In George Ancona's book *Pablo Remembers: the Fiesta of the Day of the Dead*, a 12-year-old boy participates in a festival during which he lovingly remembers his deceased grandmother. (Ages 8-11.)

• The life and career of a basketball superstar are described in James Haskins' book *Magic Johnson*. (Ages 10 and up.)



### Adult Fiction

• Set in the Florida keys, *Mean High Tide* is a thriller by James Hall in which a television career woman is murdered.

• In part a portrayal of the exploitation of the Canadian Inuit, *The Rifles*, by William T. Vollmann, is a fictionalized account of explorer John Franklin's last fatal expedition to the North Pole.

• Joan Brady's prize-winning novel *Theory of War* examines the repercussions of slavery on future generations by telling the story of a 14-year-old white boy sold into slavery after the Civil War

• In *Torch*, a mystery by John Lutz, a private investigator continues to work for his client after she mysteriously dies.

### Adult Non-Fiction

• *Born Naked* by Farley Mowat, the author of *Never Cry Wolf*, is the naturalist's description of his boyhood in the Canadian wilderness.

• *Einstein: A Life in Science*, by Michael White and John Gribbins, is an in-depth biography of the scientist's professional and personal life.

• *Nellie Bly: Daredevil, Reporter, Feminist*, by Brooke Kroeger, explores the life of this 19th-century journalist.

• From "designer" drugs to "designer" minds, *Receptors*, by Richard Restak, M.D., covers the latest advances in brain research.

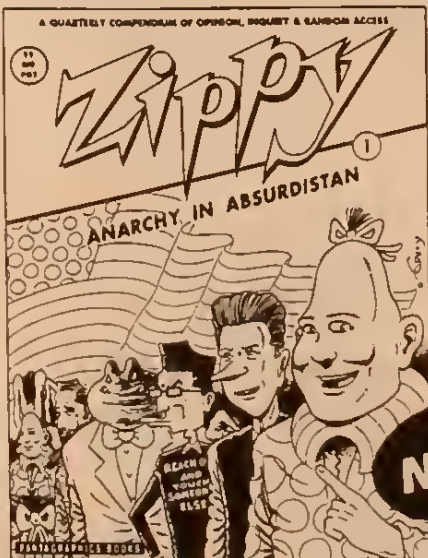
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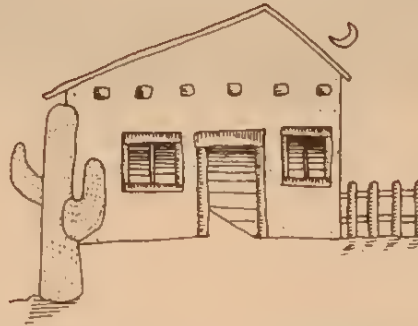
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## The Mayor Is Coming to Town

**FRANK'S A LOT:** On Tuesday, June 2 (mark your calendars), Noe Valleons will have a chance to speak frankly with Frank Jordan at a Town Hall meeting instigated by the mayor himself.

The event will be held at 7 p.m. in the auditorium at James Lick School, and is co-sponsored by Friends of Noe Valley, Upper Noe Neighbors, and the East & West of Castro Club.

Explains UNN rep Janice Gendreau, "Actually, Carolyn Tavares of the mayor's office contacted us with the idea. She indicated that this was part of the mayor's new neighborhood liaison program, so I phoned Mary Ann Malinak of Friends and we got Paul Kantus of East & West involved."

When I went directly to the horse's mouth, I learned that Frank has nine liaisons who have divvied up responsibility for the city's 36 neighborhoods (I didn't know we had that many). Their mandate is to "support the work of the mayor's neighborhood task forces and enhance the lines of communication between the community and City Hall."

Carolyn Tavares is the liaison for Noe Valley as well as for Chinatown and Twin Peaks. She says Noe Valley residents "should come up with the agenda for the Town Hall meeting, and the mayor will bring representatives of several city departments [DPW, Muni, Parking, Police, Library, and Rec and Park], so that specific issues can be addressed."

Tavares adds that she has enjoyed attending recent meetings with our neighborhood groups and merchants' associations, and that Noe Valleons are "generally nice people who take care of their own problems."

If you have a problem you'd like the mayor to take care of, you can reach Tavares at 554-6472. (If you live in Diamond Heights or Glen Park, your liaison is Kurt Barrie, 554-6497; and if you live in the Mission, then your connection is Meagan Levitan, 554-6498.)

Also, Janice Gendreau is encouraging those of you who plan to attend the Town Hall to kindly submit your questions in writing beforehand. Send them to Upper Noe Neighbors at 403 28th St., 94131.

My question, Mr. Mayor, is: Where have you been for the last two years, and exactly how much does this "liaison" thing cost?

☎ ☎ ☎

**TAKE ME OUT** to the ball game at Upper Noe playing field, and sit me down on the all NEW bleachers.

Although it required four years of pestering the city to get them installed, Upper Noe recreation director Kevin Black says he and the rest of the neighborhood's parents and kids are ecstatic about the two sets of wooden benches that materialized behind home plate in March.

"The bleachers hold about 50 people on each side, and for the first time since the field opened in 1956, visitors have an elevated place to sit," he beams. Now all you

## and now for the RUMORS behind the news

BY MAZOOK

need on your next trip to Sanchez and 30th is some popcorn (low-fat, of course).

While we're talkin' sports, congrats to Stubby Ahern, who will be honored at the 45th Mission High Athletic Alumni dinner on May 6 at Patio Español on Alemany Boulevard.

Stubby was born in 1921, came to Noe Valley in 1922, and graduated from Mission High with the Class of '39. He was "all-city" in basketball and on the varsity team in baseball, which he later played as a semi-pro.

Nowadays, he can be found spinning baseball yarns at The Peaks on Castro Street, where he's been tending bar for the past 15 years. In fact, Stubby must hold the record as the longest-running bartender in Downtown Noe Valley. He's been serving libations at various taverns for 50 years, and during one stretch (1946 to 1951) was an owner of the Cork 'n' Bottle on 24th Street.

☎ ☎ ☎

A STORM is brewing over lame-duck supervisor Bill Maher's lamebrained proposal to rename 24th Street Cesar Chavez Boulevard, which the *Voice* briefed you on in the April issue.

Several petitions surfaced on the counters of Noe Valley shops last month, vehemently protesting the proposed change.

Reads one: "24th Street is a well-known and established neighborhood street. It has a long-term established identity. . . . People know where 24th Street is, what it represents, and this reputation brings much revenue into the area. . . ."

According to one Downtown Noe Valley merchant who asked not to be identified, "People around here are pissed off [that Maher would even suggest the name change]. A lot of local people are signing these petitions."

Maybe we should ask the mayor at the Town Hall meeting whether he would veto the Maher measure. Meanwhile, the petitions are being directed to the Department of Public Works, Attn: Kam Hui, Room 350, City Hall, zip 94102.

☎ ☎ ☎

**IN OTHER SNAFUS:** My advice to those people on 22nd and Noe streets who just heaved a sigh of relief that the city's bulldozers have finally departed and moved on to plow up somebody else's blocks (like 25th and Dolores streets), is: don't throw out the earplugs.

It seems that Water Department engineers made a booboo causing construction workers to dig a trench for Noe Valley's new alternate water line in a spot already occupied by the phone company.

"We ran into some unexpected problems at the corner of 22nd and Noe when a large telephone vault was discovered requiring us to move the line between the telephone line and the sewer," says Joe Pelayo, assistant manager for the Water

Department's city distribution system. "As they started to dig the trenches, the workers began to have shoring problems."

The upshot is that the new pipeline will have to be relocated to the other side of 22nd Street, costing the city mucho extra bucks (it's already a \$2.3 million project). Maybe someone should ask the mayor how the Water Department could have missed a telephone vault.

☎ ☎ ☎

**ACCORDING TO THE POWERS THAT BE**, there is no truth to the rumor that Noe Valley cars, particularly those sitting in their driveways, are being ticketed with a vengeance these days (and nights).

Says John Newlin, head of the city's Department of Parking and Traffic, which now handles the meter maids, "No, there is no master administrative plan to target Noe Valley or any neighborhood for enforcement. There may seem to be a higher level of enforcement when we get inundated with complaints. That is quite possible in Noe Valley because of a strong level of community pride."

You may recall that prior to becoming a parking czar, John was commander of Mission Police Station. Now he's debating whether he made the right move. "Taking on the gangs of the Mission District was nothing compared to taking on the parking wars in this city," he jokes.

Speaking of parking and traffic, I guess it's nice to see the fancy new traffic signals at the intersections of 23rd and Church, and 23rd and Dolores streets. But wouldn't a four-way stop sign work just as well, plus save on electricity? Another question for the mayor.

☎ ☎ ☎

**SNORE TREK:** Those of you who read the *Examiner* and the *New York Times* may have noticed the news that Dr. Manuel

Karell, a 22nd Street physician, recently won a patent for an invention called "The Snopper—the Snoring Stopper."

"Basically it is a battery-powered device placed on the roof of the mouth to stimulate the soft palate with electrodes which are activated when you snore," says Karell, who has been snoozing in Noe Valley since 1970.

"I'm currently talking to the heart pacemaker people, who are interested in producing the Snopper, but I am most proud of the fact that I actually got the patent—start to finish—on my own, which is the true accomplishment," adds the doctor.

Karell is also excited about his newest invention: an ear wax remover. Say what?

☎ ☎ ☎

**GREAT MOMENTS IN HISTORY CONT.:** Noe Valley sculptor Ruth Asawa, who recently attended the dedication of her monument to Japanese Americans, the Internment Memorial in San Jose, will be featured on an upcoming segment of CBS's *Sunday Morning*. Television crews were out filming her at Alvarado School and at home last month.

But when I called Ruth to ask for the scoop, she was her usual modest self. She wasn't sure exactly when the TV show would air, but hopes all of Noe Valley will turn out for another more important event: the San Francisco Youth Arts Festival, which takes place May 4–8 at the de Young Museum and along the band concourse in Golden Gate Park.

Ruth started this festival back in 1974 when she was on the City Arts Commission. It showcases the artistic expressions of all the city's students—public, private, and parochial. I can't think of a better way to spend Mother's Day.

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DEEP RELAXATION Friday evening sessions. In deep relaxation, restfulness of deep sleep can be experienced while fully conscious. Learn to let go both physically and mentally. Come and join us after work on these Friday evenings to gently stretch, relax over an extended quiet time, and then in closing, bring it all together with a brief meditation. Fridays, May 6, 13, 20, 27; 5 to 5:45 p.m., \$5. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110. 821-1117.

WHEELCHAIR FOR SALE. Lightweight "Quickie GVP" sport wheelchair. Almost new. \$800. Call 824-4405.

NEED A CHANGE? Financial worries? Relationship/family problems? Stress? Anxiety? Depression? In a rut? In order to make progress in these areas it's necessary to deal directly with them, but this can feel scary, even overwhelming. Hypnosis helps you to approach and deal with problems from a relaxed, less anxious state of mind, allowing you to "get out of your own way" so that the change you need can begin. I'm a certified hypnotherapist and licensed therapist (license no. MFC19546) with over a decade of experience counseling people in San Francisco. Call Burt Kirson, M.F.C.C., at Buena Vista Counseling Center, 661-6700. Member, Northern California Society of Clinical Hypnosis.

WORKSPACE AVAILABLE at Bernal Heights Metaphysical Learning Center, 15 days (Thursday through Sunday) a month. Clean sunny room, plus waiting room. Ideal for holistic practitioner/counselor. Good parking. Easy freeway access. \$350 plus 1/2 PG&E. June, 648-9236.

BABYSITTER: Experienced, reliable. I get along well with children. References available. Call Beth, 337-7755.

GROUP THERAPY is not easy. But it can be very helpful. It seems to work best for people who are afraid of groups and yet who want more connection and closeness. Our male/female psychotherapy group has two openings. It meets Wednesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m., and costs \$30 per session. Call Dr. Pat Sax, LCSW, at 661-7158, or John Gusman, LCSW, 454-2734.

SPIRITUAL COMPANY. An inspirational video of Sri Swami Sachidananda will be shown followed by an informal discussion. Come meet other seekers while being introduced to the teachings of integral yoga. Please join us for a relaxing evening. We also welcome you to stay for evening meditation from 9:30 to 10 p.m., Friday, May 13, 7:30 to 9 p.m., by donation. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110. 821-1117.

**C L A S S A D S**

LANGUAGE VACATIONS ABRDAD. Europe/Asia/South America. Homestay with your teacher. Weekly rates. Brochure: 648-1083.

WOMEN'S WRITING CLASSES. We provide a safe, supportive atmosphere to write and read your own work. Class includes use of writing exercises, dreams, photos, etc. All forms of writing and all levels of experience are welcome. For more information call Linda Elkin/Writing Circles for Women, 337-7207.

NETWORKING SOFTWARE even I can understand! Windows for Workgroups, self-installing networking software, \$70, 286 (DDS) version, \$70, 16-bit Ethernet cards, \$60, 32-bit EISA Ethernet cards, \$425. 626-1312

SELF ESTEEM on the spiritual path. The regular practice of yoga will make us self-confident and fearless. But the task of taming the ego sometimes seems to increase the pain of low self-esteem. This class will focus on transforming self-perception and finding inner contentment and harmony through integral yoga. Taught by Swami Prakashananda Ma. Monday, May 16, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$6. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110. 821-1117.

HDST FAMILIES NEEDED. Foreign college students. \$575/month. 648-1083.

ONE-BEDROOM COTTAGE wanted by professional person who is responsible, reliable, clean, and quiet. Please call 647-7533.

VERY MODERN ONE-BEDROOM FLAT. \$850. 647-0409.

HANDYMAN/CARPENTER. Repair a door, hang a kitchen cabinet, add a room, build a fence or a deck, or even trim a tree. I'm handy, skilled, and do good work at a reasonable price. Robert, 824-1634 (Noe Valley).

CULTIVATING FORGIVENESS. Deeply painful experiences can create resentment and anger that is held like protective armor around the heart, constricting our capacity to love. This talk will introduce forgiveness as a process that includes centering oneself, understanding the source of our resentment toward ourselves and others, and steps toward its release. Forgiveness can then function in our lives, freeing us from barriers to being fully ourselves and having compassion for others. A talk by Swami Ramananda. Thursday, May 19, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$6. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110. 821-1117.

I'M YOUR GIRL FRIDAY! Let me cook for you, run errands, make those calls, help organize your life. I'm a mover and a shaker. One-time, full-time. Jana, 285-9919.

PEACHES PAINTING. Add color to your life (inside/outside). Service with care, at rates that are fair. Since 1980. License 618693; 25 percent off with ad. 641-9434.

CHILDREN'S BICYCLES: one large, one small; child's rollerblades. Call Tim, 282-7741.

NEW LOOK WINDOWS. Replace those drafty old windows! Stop condensation, reduce noise, and lower energy bills. Complete installation of vinyl and wood windows, bays, and patio doors. Ten years of experience. As the owner of a small business, I can offer very competitive rates. Call for a free estimate. If I'm out installing, please leave a message. 721-7770.

SPIRITUAL CHANTING. Come and join us for kirtan where responsive chanting and ecumenical prayers head to a joyful, healing, and meditative experience. The program concludes with our evening meditation. Led by Connie Mazzella, Friday, May 20, 7:45 to 10 p.m., by donation. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110. 821-1117.

PROBLEM MERCHANDISE? We buy your complete unwanted merchandise for cash. Write: Viva Liquidating, P.O. Box 591014, S.F., CA. 94159.

HYPNOTHERAPY. Access inner voice for growth and change. Self-trust, better relationships. Janell Moon, C.H.T., Noe Valley. 863-1936.

COMPUTER TRAINING: DOS, Windows, WordPerfect, Word, Excel, various others. At your own computer. Very patient and experienced instructor. Rebecca, 641-0112.

SPECIAL MINI-RETREAT on stress reduction. Led by Swami Ramananda and Abhaya McDonald. Enjoy with us a day of revitalizing the body and bringing mental and spiritual renewal, with special emphasis on stress reduction techniques. A delicious vegetarian lunch will be served. Registration is required five days in advance. Sunday, May 22, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., \$35. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110. 821-1117.

EXPERIENCED HOUSECLEANER from Amsterdam. Thorough, honest, with reliable references. Also available on weekends, \$10 per hour. Call Petrouschka, 647-5236.

THERAPY OFFICE available Friday, Saturday, near 24th. Reasonable. 863-1936.

S.D.S. NOW! Help for working parents. On-call childcare. Your home, San Francisco. Short-term or long-term assignments. Weekend care/overnight. Mature lady with excellent references. Experience with all ages. Specialty teaching toddlers: \$6 one child, \$8 two children; 25 cents per mile. No smoke/cats. Let's meet. Pat, 567-5431.

MEDITATION WORKSHOPS. This is a practical workshop that will enable students to begin earnest meditation on their own. A clear understanding of what meditation is, how it works, and how to make it an enjoyable daily experience will be presented. Taught by Dee Benefield. Monday, May 23, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$6. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110. 821-1117.

STORAGE/WORK SPACE for rent. 18 1/2-by-8 1/2. No utilities. \$50. 821-1750.

GARAGE SPACE WANTED: Seeking clean, secure garage space for auto as close to 26th and Dolores as possible. Will walk a few blocks. Will not access on daily basis. Six-month rental okay. References. 647-8692.

QUICK-QUALITY TYPING. Letters, flyers with graphics, reports, resumes, etc. Tape transcriptions, fax available. Call Nancy, 821-2293.

YOGA DEDICATION to a healthy life. Mel Lefer will discuss ways to apply the tools used in Dr. Ornish's heart program, and other yoga practices to provide the direct experience of how powerful comprehensive lifestyle changes can affect one's heart and overall sense of well-being. The goal is to transfer these habits into every aspect of daily life, and to open our hearts and minds to the peace within. Thursday, May 26, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., \$10. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110. 821-1117.

LOVING, NURTURING WOMAN available May 16 for childcare, Mondays and Fridays. Speaks English, familiar with area, excellent references. Call 647-3430 before 8 p.m.

CHILD AND FAMILY THERAPY. Many years of intensive work with children who are experiencing or have experienced trauma at school, at home, or elsewhere. If your child is having difficulty paying attention, lacks motivation, has poor social relationships, I work with child and family to alleviate negative effects of traumatic experiences. Lynn Pelsinger, M.F.C.C. 11914, life-credentialed special education teacher. Call for information. 647-3475.

WOMEN'S SUPPORT CIRCLE: Join a seasoned therapist in an ongoing group, creating a bond of support, sharing, safety, and camaraderie. Reduce isolation and focus on what's really important to you, such as self-esteem, relationships, family, work, aging, body image, loss, power, and spirituality. Call for a free individual session with me. Noe Valley. \$120/month. Arlene Dumas, L.C.S.W., B.C.D. 641-4553.

JUST PLAIN GOOD THERAPY. Brief counseling, crisis help, or in-depth work offered to individuals and couples of "all sexual persuasions" by well-aged, intuitive, perceptive, and highly skilled counselor who has seen, heard, and experienced a broad range of life's challenges. Upper Glen Park, easy parking. Jeanne Adleman, M.A. 585-0666.

PSYCHOTHERAPY for adults, children, and adolescents. Phyllis S. Shulman, M.F.C.C. 285-4724.

HANDYMAN: Repairs, building shelves, decks, fences. References, reasonable rates. Harry Irving, 986-2654.

SPRING TAHOE GETAWAY. Beautiful home in prestigious Incline Village. Ski Squaw, Alpine, Diamond Peak, Heavenly. Large kitchen, three bedrooms, two baths, steam/sauna room, living room with fireplace, two decks, garage, all appliances, and laundry. Call 282-7955.

PET CARE PLUS. Loving pet care in your home. Reasonable rates, excellent references, bonded. Alice Mabry, 647-6914.

CARPENTERS/HANDYMEN: Remodeling and repair. Decks, doors, drywall. Windows, woodwork, whatever. Reasonable rates. References. For free estimate, call Dan, at 333-1857, or Mike, at 386-6252.

BODKKEEPING. Small business and individuals. Ten-plus years of experience. Efficient and easy to work with. David, 864-1815.

HIGHLY EFFICIENT HDUSECLEANING. Thorough, reliable, trustworthy. Local references, reasonable rates. Move-outs. Regular or one-time. No minimum. You call the shots! Chris, 641-4902.

BERNAL HEIGHTS METAPHYSICAL learning center offers a variety of holistic and metaphysical lectures, workshops, and classes for body, mind, and spirit. Please telephone for a schedule of events. 648-9236.

SONOMA COUNTY RETREAT CENTER! Gorgeous seven-bedroom house in the wine country. Perfect for workshops or private getaways. Exclusive use for your group. Sleeps up to 20. 923-0754.

HELP WITH YOUR MATH HOMEWORK? Algebra, calculus, engineering math, 3D AutoCAD illustration and rendering. Design engineer on multimedia quest seeks tutoring clients. Twelve years' hands-on experience Silicon Valley. Six-plus years' experience using and training others on 3D workstations. 626-1312. Sliding scale for students and "working folks."

RIPE FRUIT: A Greenhouse for Your Imagination provides intimate creative writing workshops for writers at all levels in Noe Valley. Fertilize your outrageous imagination; cultivate and affirm your unique writing voice; complete vivid, powerful, original work. Summer 10-week workshops start in July. One-day intensives May 14, June 18 (Hawaii), July 9. Call Leslie, 285-1926 to register.

REWARD: Lost black and white cat, Dolores Street near 22nd Street. Black with white underside. White-tipped paws. Female, 5 years. Very sweet, cute. "Buddha." 826-0612. We miss her!

INDIAN BANQUET AND CONCERT fundraiser. Come and have a delicious Indian banquet, sing songs with Swami Gitananda, dance the dances of universal peace, and visit. Proceeds will go to help fix the Institute's kitchen. Please RSVP by May 2. Saturday, May 7, 5 to 11 p.m., \$25 per person, \$40 per couple. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110. 821-1117.

SPANISH CLASSES! Our evening classes are small, maximum six students, so you get lots of attention and ample opportunity to speak. Experienced instructor (25 years). Classes begin week of May 9. Call now! WEEKEND en español. 923-0754.

COMPUTERS FOR SALE. 386-40 Motherboard, \$110. SoundBlaster PRO, \$100. Panasonic MPC-compliant CD-ROM, \$100. 626-1312. Computer repair, training, and network support. You buy the parts, \$40 for assembly and disk formatting.

COZY ROOM IN NOE VALLEY. \$325 per month plus utilities. Share unique, non-smoking house with three adults and two cats. Deck, yard. Available now. 821-3457.

PRANAYAMA AND MEDITATION course class. For those interested in stress reduction, better physical health, and improved concentration. Come learn and experience the fundamental techniques of breath control and meditation. Taught by Bhanu Beacon. Six Tuesdays beginning May 10, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$35. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110. 821-1117.

SALES DATABASES: 2,000 vice presidents working in San Francisco companies—names, addresses, titles, and phone numbers for \$20; 1994 phone book for entire United States on five CD-Roms, \$160; 1993, \$60. 626-1312.

RUMMAGE SALE: 33rd Avenue/Ulloa. May 21, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

LEARN SPANISH through immersion. Nothing works like real interaction, completamente en español! Day workshops on pronunciation, cooking, or for different levels. WEEKEND retreats for all levels. Call WEEKEND en español. 923-0754.

WRITING WORKSHOP: POETRY, prose/fiction. Writing exercises, critiques of finished/in-progress works. Starts early June. Aleka Chase, M.A. 661-8052.

WANTED: GARAGE IN NOE VALLEY. I live on 24th Street between Chattanooga and Dolores. Would love a garage within a few blocks. Needed ASAP! Please call 693-8753 anytime.

TRANSFORMING ANGER. Anger is a powerful energy that can be used in healthy ways to further spiritual growth and constructive communication. Many of us learned as children to view anger as negative and painful and have seen how its repression brings physical and emotional suffering to ourselves and others. Understanding how anger originates, how it affects us, how it can be acknowledged, released, and expressed in appropriate ways will be discussed. Participants will learn methods to strengthen both mind and heart to transform anger into a tool for spiritual development. Taught by Swami Ramananda. Thursday, May 12, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$6. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110. 821-1117.

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**TRANSFORM YOUR JUNGLE** into a paradise. Pruning, cleanups, planting, lawns, irrigation, maintenance. Call Jorge at 826-7840 for free estimates. Remember, it's pruning time.

**THE PAINTING MACHINE.** All-women crew. Fine painting, residential and commercial. Meticulous, clean, detail-oriented, reliable, dependable, efficient, and affordable. Free estimates, local references. Interior/exterior. Call 641-9121.

**HARMONICA LESSONS.** Taught by professional right here in your neighborhood. All styles. Beginners to advanced welcome. Sliding scale. 648-7858.

**OVERWHELMED BY CLUTTER,** taxes, bills? Professional organizer comes to the rescue. I can clear your office, home, desk, develop a personalized filing system, maintain your finances. I specialize in organizing receipts, bills, all tax-deductibles for optimal tax preparation. Free consultation. Call Deborah, 621-3425.

**BORIS** repairs, refinishes, restores furniture. Custom upholstery. Careful European craftsmanship, low prices. Free estimate, pickup, and delivery. Call 587-3416.

**MOTHERS IN MOTION.** Small, personalized circuit-training classes for moms. Get an aerobic and weight-training workout all in one class. Taught by a certified personal trainer. Call Anne, 821-1539.

**HOST A FOREIGN STUDENT.** Best compensation in the Bay Area, \$550 to \$750 a month for full homestay students from all over the world, all ages, all lengths of stay. Professional and college students. For information call 459-1265.

**BOOKS PURCHASED.** Call 469-9338. I can come to you. (45-year San Francisco resident.)

**STEREO REPAIR.** Save time! Save money! Offering in-home stereo repair at reasonable rates. Formerly with Pacific Stereo; now serving the San Francisco community for 10 years. References. Guarantee. Gene's Sound Service, 553-3751.

**BEO AND BREAKFAST.** "Victorian Legacy," designer's beautiful three-room suite, with private entrance. Excellent Noe Valley location. 648-8879.

**CARPENTRY AND PAINTING.** Interior and exterior, minimum on small jobs. Local references. Sandy, 585-6542.

**PROFESSIONAL HOUSECLEANER.** Excellent. 17 years of local references. Always high-quality, systematic, consistent work. Thoroughly reliable. Regular, one-time, moving—all are specialties. I love my job and you'll love my work. Serving San Francisco daily. Call now. Oeana, 510-547-2469.

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**"I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TAP DANCE."** Adult classes for beginning "Freds" and returning "Gingers" are being taught in Noe Valley by Susan Main (tap coach for "Cole!" with over 10 years' professional experience). Call 821-6403 for information.

**LEARN JAPANESE.** All levels conversation, grammar, reading, and writing. Daytime, evening, weekend. Group and individual classes in my home in Noe Valley. Learn Japanese and culture in a relaxed atmosphere. Please contact Atsuko, 824-1883.

**VACATION RENTALS** in Great Britain and Ireland. Weekly or monthly. From city flats to country cottages and castles. Call As You Like It, 380-9848.

**BED AND BREAKFAST,** quaint garden suite, spacious, front room, full kitchen, big bedroom and office area, laundry room, modern bathroom, ornamental gas fireplace, arched window view of garden with flowers, ground level, parking, separate entrance, quiet, near 26th and Sanchez, close to shopping and transportation, privacy. \$80 per night; additional rooms available. Call 206-1999.

**HOME REPAIRS.** Windows, doors, deadbolt locks, weatherstripping, small carpentry and household repair jobs. Local references. Free estimates. City Window Service, 337-9327. Ask for Oon.

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**SENSIBLE HOUSECLEANING** using mostly natural products. Eight years of experience. Yannick, 648-3047.

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**COMPLETE GARDENING SERVICE.** Creative efficient and experienced. Design creation, consultations. Pruning, planting, maintenance and cleanups. 626-1258.

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**HOUSECLEANING.** Convenient neighborhood service, weekends and one-time fine. Fast and thorough, 10 years of experience, references. Leslie, 285-8566.

**CAREER COUNSELING:** Pathways to Satisfying Work. Are you dissatisfied with your current work situation, considering a career change, or interested in generating strategies to manage your career in this changing job market? I offer counseling in a supportive environment to help you identify your strengths and the tools and resources to move forward in your life. Sheila E. Weisblatt, M.S. 241-1586.

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**CARPENTER.** Experienced, professional. Everything from rough to the finest finish work. Call today for a prompt free estimate. 330-5477.

**CASH FOR OLD WOOD FURNITURE,** rugs, and household items. One-Eyed Jacks, 621-4390.

**IS YOUR HOUSE ACTING OUT?** Call Art Porras for expert home repairs and quality carpentry. 20 years' experience, solid references. 206-9802.

**GARDEN AND YARD MAINTENANCE.** Weeding, cleanup; \$10/hour. Experienced and knowledgeable. Organic. Thorough and efficient. Reliable. Friendly. Call Heather, 861-6980.

**A MOTHER... TO BE OR NOT TO BE?** Ten-week support groups in San Francisco for women, exploring whether or not to have children, and the many feelings associated with this decision. The next two groups begin April 27 and July 20. 510-895-3592. San Francisco office. Interns: Oenise Carlini, I.M.F. 19542; Ann Oavidman, I.M.F. 20110. Supervisor: K. Glaser, M.F.C. 18869.

**THIS LINOLEUM INSTALLER** does all types of vinyl flooring, flat tile, and coving jobs; sits cross-legged for hours. Call Per, 563-9039.

**THERAPY.** Grief can weigh heavy on the soul and prevent you from living your life the way you want. Grieving the childhood you never had or the loss of a loved one is difficult to do even in the best of situations. Doing this work with me, a caring and supportive therapist, can make it tolerable. Ann Oavidman, M.F.C.C. Intern I.M.F. 20110. Supervisor: K. Glaser, M.F.C. 18869. 510-895-3592, San Francisco office.

**CARPENTER.** Decks, kneewalls, doors hung, and lots of other stuff. Friendly disposition. Clarke, 826-1564.

**HOME CARE** for male, by hospital nurse (inactive). Cleaning, shopping, transport, personal care. Michael. 282-9537.

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**TELEPHONE** wiring and jacks for your home or apartment; 31 years of experience. Call Gene, 826-8419.

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**SAFE RELAXING MASSAGE FOR WOMEN.** Swedish and shiatsu massage available in my home between the Castro and Noe Valley. Perfect for pregnant and postpartum women, too. Sliding scale. First session discount. Gift certificates available. Member A.M.T.A. Cat Lambert, 641-4463.

**EXPERT HOUSE CLEANER.** Fast, thorough, and careful. Done to your specifications. Ten years' experience. Expert garden care also. Call Margaret, 824-0894.

**AVOID REFINISHING.** Restore your valued furniture with in-home repair: dings, breaks, scratches, dents, and gouges. Call Linda for details and prices. 755-2773.

**I AM AN EXPERIENCEO HOUSECLEANER.** You are a busy person. Don't be ashamed of your dirt. I will take care of it. Guilt-free cleaning. 864-3842, Kieran.

**PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR WOMEN,** from a feminist perspective. Counseling services to heterosexual, lesbian, and bisexual woman and couples. As women we often struggle with issues that include low self-esteem, sexual abuse, depression, eating disorders, and a general inability to focus on our own needs in a relationship. As a caring, experienced, licensed therapist, I can help you move through crisis and safely explore and transform painful, difficult feelings, behaviors, and relationships. Noe Valley office. Judith Rosen, Ph.D., M.F.C.C. 285-0262.

## How to Use Voice Class Ads

The rate for classified advertising in the *Noe Valley Voice* is 25¢ a word. Just type or print your copy, multiply the number of words by 25¢ (we trust you), enclose a check or money order for the full amount, and mail it to us by the 15th of the month preceding the month in which you'd like the ad to appear.

Please let us know whether your ad is a renewal from a previous issue. (But be sure to give us the full ad copy, in any case.)

**Reward for Loyalty:** The *Voice* comes out 10 times a year—we don't publish in January and August. If you decide to place the same class ad in 10 issues (a year's worth), you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. Just deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

To place an ad in the June 1994 issue, which will hit the streets Wednesday, June 1, mail your ad copy and a check made payable to the *Noe Valley Voice* so that we receive it by May 15. Our address is *Noe Valley Voice* Class Ads, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Sorry, but we are unable to accept phone or drop-in orders.

Class advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of the ad (not to exceed one line of type) will be highlighted in all caps. Also, receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. □

**CAT & PLANT CARE** in your home while you're gone. Oaily visits by mature Noe Valley woman with 12 years of experience. Recommended by several veterinarians and satisfied clients. Non-smoker. Call Anna-Kajs (A-K) for a cat chat, rates, and references. 648-8132.

**WORD PROCESSING, ETC.** Let my ears listen, my fingers fly, my eyes read, and my mind work for you. Experienced legal secretary. All work welcomed, including statistical typing. Dena Reiner, 821-4661.

**TAX PREPARATION,** accounting services. Friendly CPA specializing in small businesses and individuals. Reasonable rates, half-hour free consultation. Ten percent discount when you mention this ad. Jack, 826-2958.

**THE TRAVELING MECHANIC.** Tune-ups, brakes, general repairs, foreign and domestic, used car evaluations. 18 years' extensive experience, all work guaranteed. \$40 an hour, house calls. Giorgio, 647-3403. Licensed and certified.

**ATTENTION: EXCELLENT INCOME** for home assembly work. Information: 1-504-646-1700, Dept. CA-5139.

**PIANO LESSONS** with credentialed, experienced Noe Valley teacher. Classical approach including ear training and theory. All ages welcome. Barbara Bannett, 648-1007.

**PHIL'S WINOOW CLEANING SERVICE.** Reliable/courteous. Free estimates for residential/commercial. 668-8310.

**COUNSELING/PATHWAYS FOR CHANGE.** I provide a safe, nurturing environment to help you clarify times of transition, heal old wounds, release hindering patterns, and create positive changes in your life. Esther Goldman, M.A. 431-1066. Sliding scale.

**HANDIMEN.** Housecalls. Home repair, plaster, paint prep, paint ready. Walls, doors, windows, and floors. Tiling and refinishing. Maintenance, electrical, and plumbing. Olivier, 826-8766.

**LOOK AND FEEL YOUR BEST.** One-on-one fitness. Professional, affordable, personalized. B.A. in physical education. Certified personal trainer. Anne, 821-1539.

**NEW IMPROVED NOE'S NEST** bed and breakfast. Unit A: private entrance, private bath, kitchenette, queen bed. Cute and cozy. Unit B: view, private bath, deck, fireplace, hot tub, queen bed. Unit C: ultra-view, private bath, steam room, parlor, king bed, fireplace and deck. All with cable and VCR. Masseuse and daycare available. Contact Sheila, 821-0751.

**POETRY WANTED:** The *Noe Valley Voice* welcomes submissions of poetry related to neighborhood themes, people, or places. Payment upon publication. Send submissions with SASE (and a phone number, please) to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

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# CALENDAR



Noe Valley artist Melissa Lee Harris will exhibit "House on Fire" among other photos at Fort Mason Center May 7-15

**MAY 1:** Martin de Porres SQUAP KITCHEN needs volunteers for breakfast and lunch shifts. 225 Potrero Ave. Call Abby at 552-0240 for info.

## MAY 1994

**MAY 1-31:** An exhibit of PHOTOS taken with plastic cameras by Voice photographer Pamela Gerard, Susan Backman, and Barbara Wyeth continues at Julie Holcomb Printers, 665 Third St., Suite 425. 243-0530.

**MAY 2:** The Elbo Room presents MUSIC by the Brown Feltinis and DJ the Baroness. 9:30 pm. Valencia & 17th. 552-7788

**MAY 2 & 16:** Lesbian feminist author Martha Courtot leads a WOMEN WRITERS group. 6-8 pm. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. 626-7000

**MAY 2 & 16:** Ruth Rankin, director of State of the Heart, teaches CPR classes. 7 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 821-0108

**MAY 2-30:** The Sri Chinmoy Centre offers a free MEDITATION class on Monday nights. 7-8 pm. Bethany Church, 201 Clipper St. 664-1327.

**MAY 3, 10, 17 & 24:** Preschool STORY TIME begins at 10 am at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095

**MAY 3-31:** Newspapers and photos of San Francisco in the 1950s are on display during HISTORY MONTH at the Noe Valley Library. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095

**MAY 4-25:** The Noe Valley Library invites parents to bring their infants and toddlers to its Wednesday LAPSITS. 7 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

**MAY 4-JUNE 26:** Local QUILTER Ann Carroll exhibits her computer-designed work in "SoftWare." Wed.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; Sun., 1-4 pm. American Museum of Quilts and Textiles, 766 South 2nd St., San Jose. 550-1635

**MAY 5-7:** Dancer's Group/Footwork presents a DANCE CONCERT of works by Britta Randliv, Julie Regalado, Megan Nicely, and Julie Gehrke Mitter. 8:30 pm. 3221 22nd St. 824-5044

**MAY 6:** KAIRQS Support for Caregivers invites all caregivers to an open house celebration in honor of Caregiver's Day. 5-7 pm. 114 Douglass St. 861-0877

**MAY 6:** The Noe Valley Nursery School honors Director Nina Youkelson at its 25th anniversary PARTY, featuring food, music, and dancing. 7-10 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2278

**MAY 6:** The original Japanese print of GODZILLA will be shown in a tribute to filmmaker Ishiro Honda. 8:30 pm. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia St. 824-3890

**MAY 6 & 7:** The lesbian and gay vocal group Inspiracy performs an a cappella CONCERT. 8 pm. Bethany Church, 201 Clipper St. 648-2073

**MAY 7 & 21:** The San Francisco Vikings SOCCER LEAGUE offers Fall '94 registration for girls and boys, 5 to 18. Call 753-3111 for info.

**MAY 8:** Flutist Evgeny Ganin and soprano Marcia Grumme join pianists Reghina Volodorskaya and Ina Chalis in a CONCERT. 2 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 826-8670.

**MAY 8:** P-FLAG's Mother's Day meeting features speaker Jeanne Mantord, the first mother to march in a gay pride parade. 2-4 pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St. 921-8850.

**MAY 8:** Community Music Center STUDENTS perform works by Debussy, Janacek, and Schumann in "Pursuit of Excellence: Music for Mother's Day." 4 pm. 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

**MAY 8:** The Hen Co-op, six women between the ages of 60 and 75, discuss their BOOK, *Growing Old Disgracefully: New Ideas for Getting the Most Out of Life*. 7 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4676

**MAY 8:** Noe Valley Ministry's CANTATE service of chanting, meditation, and prayer begins at 7 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317

**MAY 12:** Small Press Traffic hosts a PUBLICATION PARTY and reading for SFSU's "Ink Magazine #13/14." 3 pm. 3599 24th St. 285-8394.

**MAY 13:** La Comedia performs a BAROQUE CONCERT, "By George!", featuring music of Telemann, Handel, and "other guys named George." 8 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. (510) 848-6206.

**MAY 13:** The CHAMBER CHORUS Sacred and Profane performs the folk song mass *Missa Carmina*. 8 pm. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. (510) 524-3611.

**MAY 14:** Jim Neafsey leads a WORKSHOP, "Art/Prayer/Healing: Passing Through Suffering to Healing and Joy." 9 am-3 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 285-7438

**MAY 14:** The RQVA Saxophone Quartet premieres three new musical works. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

**MAY 14 & 15:** CITY BALLET performs "Basically Ballet" with guest dancers from the Miami Ballet and the Tulsa Ballet Theatre. Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 626-8878

**MAY 14-21:** Precita Eyes offers Mission MURAL WALKS to celebrate Mural Awareness Week. 1:30 pm. 348 Precita Ave. 285-2287

**MAY 15:** The ALMA DUO performs works by Vivaldi, Poulenc, and Bodganovic on violin, viola, and guitar. 2 pm. Noe Valley Chamber Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

**MAY 15:** HISTORY DAY at the Noe Valley Library features memorabilia and films from the '50s and musical entertainment by the Singing Rainbows. 2-5 pm. 451 Jersey St. 647-3753



The new mural on the Women's Building at 3543 18th St. was voted Best Collaborative Mural for this year's Mural Awareness Week, May 14-21. PHOTO BY ANDY INGALLS

**MAY 17:** The Mission Branch Library offers a JO8 CLINIC for young adults, ages 12-14. 3:30 pm. 3359 24th St. 695-5090.

**MAY 17:** Co-editors Julia Gilden and Mark Friedman discuss *Woman to Woman*, a BOOK of quotations by women about women. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246.

**MAY 18:** *The Third Man*, a FILM starring Joseph Cotten and Orson Welles, will be screened free at the Noe Valley Library. 7 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095



"Tire Swing and Tree," part of a childhood memories series by Noe Valley photographer Pamela Gerard, will be among the works on display this month at Julie Holcomb Printers.

**MAY 19:** The S.F. YMCA sponsors its first SENIORS WALK. 10:30 am. Marina Green. Call 391-9622 for info.

**MAY 19:** LA LECHE LEAGUE'S monthly meeting includes a discussion, "Fathers and Siblings of the Breastfed Baby." 10 am. Natural Resources, 4077 1/2 A 24th St. 282-7816.

**MAY 21:** St. Luke's Hospital offers a free good HEALTH seminar, "Incontinence in Women." 10:30 am-noon. 3555 Army St. Call 821-3627 for reservations.

**MAY 21:** 25th St. between Noe and Sanchez blooms with secondhand treasures at a BLDCK GARAGE SALE. Call Heather at 285-5292 for info.

**MAY 21:** Opera Piccola performs an African folktale OPERA, *The Stolen Aroma*. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 454-5238.

**MAY 22:** The Ina Chalis Opera Ensemble gives a SPRING CONCERT that includes scenes from Donizetti and Verdi. 3 pm. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

**MAY 25:** Marie Stroughter and Susan Peng offer a seminar, "BABY SITTING for Teens." 3:30 pm. Glen Park Reading Center, 653 Chenery St. 337-4740

**MAY 26:** The monthly meeting of the UPPER NOE Neighbors begins at 7:30 pm. Upper Noe Recreation Center, Sanchez & Day. 641-5989.

**MAY 26:** Frances Payne Adler reads from her book *Raising the Tents: A Collection of POETRY*. 8 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4676

**MAY 28 & 29:** Samba down to CARNAVAL! A music and crafts festival takes place Saturday on Harrison Street between 16th & 22nd. The Grand Parade (on 24th & Mission streets) starts Sunday at 11 am at 24th & Bryant. Call 824-8999 for more.

**MAY 31:** The Noe Valley Library features FILMS for preschoolers at 10 and 11 am. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

**MAY 31:** Larry Oean and Leland Stoney read their POETRY at Keane's 3300 Club. 7 pm. 29th & Mission. 824-0835

**JUNE 1-JULY 6:** The Fire Department offers a six-week TRAINING for members of its Neighborhood Emergency Response Team. Wed., 6:30 pm. Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day & Sanchez. 695-0700.

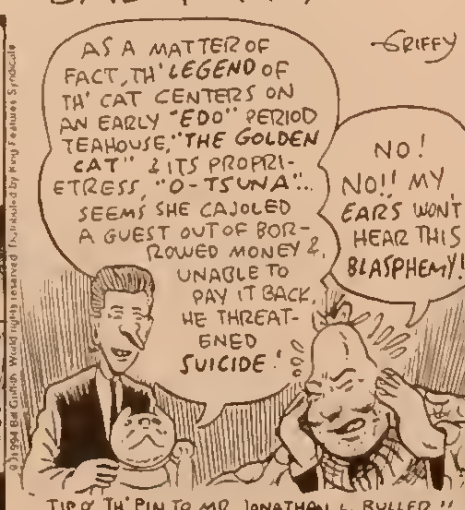
**JUNE 2:** Alvarado Elementary School sponsors a CAREER DAY for students 8:45 to 11:30 am. 625 Douglass St. Call Victoria at 695-5695 if you can come discuss your vocation with the kids.

**JUNE 2:** Mayor Frank Jordan and other representatives of city government will attend a TOWN HALL meeting sponsored by the mayor's office and three Noe Valley groups. 7 pm. James Lick School, 1220 Noe St. 641-5989.

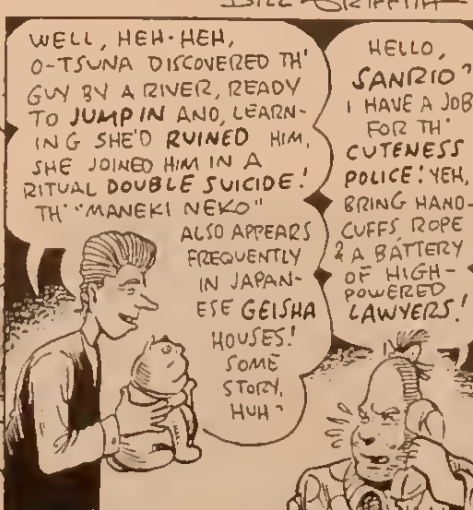
ZIPPY



"BAD KITTY"



BILL GRIFFIN



## The Scoop on Calendar

The next issue of the *Noe Valley Voice* will appear Wednesday, June 1, and will publicize calendar events occurring during the month of June. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority. To make sure we have a chance to include your item, please mail us a notice by May 15. Our address is *Noe Valley Voice*, Attn: Calendar, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114.